

End of rating system sought by shadow environment minister

From Christopher Warman
Blackpool

Mr Gerald Kaufman, opposition spokesman on the environment, yesterday called for the rating system to be ended and replaced by corporation tax for industry and commerce and local income tax for other ratepayers.

He told the Labour Party's local government conference in Blackpool that the rating system made no sense and was an irrational, ineffective and highly resented form of taxation.

Corporation tax would satisfy the growing demand for industry and commerce to have a vote in local government. For the domestic ratepayer, direct local income tax was the most equitable solution, there would be a much smaller grant from the government and local government could be given far greater freedom.

But with freedom for control, local government must have the freedom to be responsible for its spending and to justify it to residents. Local authorities could not expect central government to bail them out of difficulties.

Mr Kaufman attacked Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of

State for the Environment, saying that the block-grant legislation should be repealed by the next Labour government.

The Government was guilty of deliberate, malicious and malevolent harassment of local authorities as they carried out their duties.

"The freedom of local government is being sapped by the cat and mouse tactics being employed against local councils by Michael Heseltine. The tactics would be out of place in the Soviet Union. Mr Heseltine claims that local government is free to conduct its activities in any way it wishes within the law.

"The trouble is that if local councils pursue those activities in the way they think best, they will be liable to discover later in the year that they have been committing offences that did not exist at the time of their actions, offences which have been invented after the actions took place."

That had already happened in recent months when eight councils made spending decisions that were completely illegal but to which penalties were applied retrospectively. Mr Heseltine was at it again with the prospect of penalties under the block-grant system.

MPs seek safeguards for forestry land

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Senior Conservative backbench MPs want to curb proposed government powers to sell land owned by the Forestry Commission. They believe that the powers recommended for ministers in the Forestry Bill are too wide.

The Bill was presented to the Commons in December by Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, with the support of four other ministers.

The disputed clause states that "the minister may dispose for any purpose of land acquired by him under this section". Some Conservative MPs share the fear of private foresters that that will allow ministers to sell land owned by the commission without using the money for investment in forestry.

The leading critics of the clause include Mr Peter Mills, MP for Devon, West, chairman of the Conservative food and agriculture committee in the Commons. Mr Mills is a former junior minister in Mr Walker's ministry. His reservations are shared by Mr Patrick Cormack, MP for Staffordshire, South-west, and chairman of the

forestry sub-committee of Mr Mills's committee.

"I give the Bill a guarded welcome", Mr Mills said. He feared that the inclusion of the words "for any purpose" would enable ministers to sell land to the detriment of the national forestry industry just to raise money.

"I can almost feel the Treasury pressure on the Forestry Commission", he added. "If there are small attractive forests that are just suitable for sale, we want that continued."

Ministers are understood to oppose two of the main recommendations about forestry from the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology.

They are that the commission should have a chief scientist and that ministers should bring forestry grants "in line with the objectives of best integrated land use".

A committee of civil servants has proposed that the post of chief scientist at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food should be abolished. A long review of farming grants has been completed by the Government.

South bank sale referred to district auditor

By Our Planning Reporter

A decision by the Greater London Council to sell sites on the south bank of the Thames to a private developer has been referred to the district auditor by leaders of the council's Labour group.

The sites, totalling some 10 acres, are part of the so-called Coin Street area, which a property company, Greycoat Commercial Estates, has applied to redevelop. Earlier this month Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, called in the application for a public inquiry.

The Conservative majority on the council supports the Greycoat scheme, and last week the planning and communications committee voted to sell the land. Mr Andrew McIntosh, leader of the Labour group, said yesterday that he and his colleagues had asked the district auditor to advise on the propriety of the committee's actions.

"We feel that the decision to sell these sites at breakneck speed, despite the professional advice of the council's officers, is a desperate and deathwish move", he said.

Snowdown Colliery men are in fighting mood

From Richard Ford
Aylesham, Kent

A huge cheer echoed around the Snowdown Colliery Welfare Club yesterday as the news was shouted that men at the two other pits in Kent were backing workers in any action they took to save their jobs at the doomed colliery.

The announcement came after a 90-minute meeting at the club where men from the 60-year-old pit had discussed what action they are to take after the announcement by the National Coal Board that Snowdown is to close within months. The support from their fellow workers was exactly what they wanted to hear.

After the meeting, attended by more than 500 men, they were united in their determination to fight the closure threat which many see as the beginning of the final rundown of the Kent coal field, which has only three pits.

The men also believe that Aylesham, the model village built to house miners and their families, will become a ghost town if the pit closes, offering them few opportunities for other employment.

Under the coal board plan, the colliery will be closed, with

The centre in turmoil 1: Attitude of voters in marginal constituencies to formation of a new political party

No cheers for social democracy in industry's disillusioned birthplace

By John Witherow

There used to be a sign by the road leading into the new town of Telford, Shropshire, which read in big, bold letters: "Telford—land of opportunity". One night a couple of years ago a disgruntled passer-by is said to have torn it down, leaving it lying unceremoniously by the roadside.

That simple act of defiance sums up the disillusionment afflicting the town on which so many people base their dreams; the town with the highest unemployment rate in the West Midlands.

The sign now reads, more modestly: "Telford—birthplace of industry". That has some truth, for in Coalbrookdale, one of the villages that make up the amorphous mass of modern Telford, iron was first smelted with coal.

But can Telford still be called the birthplace of industry? It is described in glossy advertisements as the "great power of the West Midlands", but its big companies are laying off men faster than specialised industries can be attracted to the carefully landscaped Shropshire hills.

With its high unemployment, new towns and a marginal parliamentary seat, Telford, which forms the heart of the Wrekin constituency, should be an ideal recruiting ground for the social democrats. But a survey last week showed that the people of Telford were less interested in a centre party than the residents of two Birmingham constituencies.

The Wrekin constituency swung to Mr Warren Footway, the Conservative candidate, by a margin of 965 votes in the last general election. For the past 30 years, with only one exception, it has gone to whichever party gained the seat.

Created in the early 1960s and named after Thomas Telford, the great engineer who was Shropshire's county surveyor, the town has attracted



No centre party support from Mr Jack Johnston (left) or Mr John Wilding.

a heterogeneous population of just over 100,000 from Liverpool, Wolverhampton and Birmingham in search of work and green fields. But very few of those questioned from the town, where unemployment will be 18 per cent by the spring, gave unconditional support for a regrouping of political parties.

Those who expressed a general sympathy with the aspirations of the social democrats also displayed an understandable ignorance about the aims and policies of a party that has yet to be formed.

Tentative support, however, came from some surprising quarters. Mr John Tranter, aged 58, a General and Municipal Workers Union shop steward at the GKN-Sankey

plant, said he might vote for the grouping. "I do not agree with what the Labour Party has been up to. It has been letting the Tories have their own way. People here are very frightened of losing their jobs and disillusioned with the present system", he said.

For every potential Liberal/social democrat alliance voter, there were several others unconditionally opposed to it. Mr John Hislop, aged 50, and Mr Samuel Taylor, aged 41, both production workers at GKN-Sankey which is laying off nearly 1,000 workers, voted Labour last time and do not intend to change.

"Labour are following the right policies", Mr Hislop said. "I think they are the party for

the working man." A similar determination to stand by Labour came from Mrs Brenda Drew and her two daughters.

Few Conservatives showed signs of wavering. Mr John Wilding, aged 31, an unemployed factory inspector, voted Tory in 1979 and believes Mrs Thatcher "shows the courage of her convictions".

Mr Jack Johnston, aged 37, a displaced Scottish nationalist, had no time for the social democrats, or any politician for that matter. "They say something, mean another and do something else".

Most of those questioned in Telford and in two of the marginal Birmingham constituencies, Northfield and Perry Barr, listed their greatest concerns as the threat of unemployment for

themselves and their children, inflation and housing. Only a few expressed fears about the threat of nuclear war, immigration and other issues.

Northfield, a prosperous suburb in south Birmingham which includes British Leyland's Longbridge plant, was a Labour stronghold from 1950. But in 1979 it moved dramatically to the Conservatives, with the third biggest swing in the country.

Perry Barr, to the north of the city, was retained by Labour with a majority of 491 votes. That was largely attributed to the local efforts of its MP, Mr Jeffrey Rooker.

Constituents there expressed disgust with the "seesaw" politics of the two-party system and said it was time for a centre grouping. But two people asked if it would vote for the social democrats, unconditionally said they would.

Most wanted to wait, judge the party's policies and see if it would attract more support. They thought the choice of the party leader would be important but would not influence the way they voted. Of possible candidates for the leadership, Mrs Shirley Williams, Mr David Owen and Mr David Steel were most favoured.

Mr Keith Clarke, aged 27, a building industry worker, said the social democrats might get his support if they "dangled the carrot", did something for the working class and helped young unemployed people.

Others thought it was "a one-day wonder; a protest vote". Support for a central alliance seemed to come equally from former Conservative and Labour voters. The few Liberals questioned said they would vote for the social democrats only if they allied themselves with the Liberals.

A butcher who voted Liberal in 1979 said he might vote for the social democrats in the likely event that they supported enforced conscription for the unemployed and the return of hanging.

The overall impression gained in Perry Barr, a largely residential constituency with some small light engineering firms was similar to that of Northfield, with its cautious scepticism.

Several people expressed concern that Labour was losing credibility through its internal wrangling and thought the "called gang of four" should fight for their beliefs within a party.

But the survey, random as limited as it was, failed to reflect the enormous support for the social democratic party closed in formal polls recent. There was nothing like the conditional 39 per cent support for a Liberal/social democratic alliance disclosed in an Opinion Research and Communications poll carried out for The Times in January and published February 9.

What did emerge was fairly widespread sympathy for the aims of the social democrats, tempered by a cynical distrust of politicians and parties.

Many people said that if a Liberal/social democratic alliance to make headway in the West Midlands it was hard to appear as a credit party with widespread support and sensible policies to combat unemployment.

If the social democrats to a party with Liberal support they will certainly face a tough battle in all three constituencies. The Liberals gained 1,200 votes in the last election, 4,538 in 1979. Mr John Wilding, Wrekin, again winning votes up to 33,000.

They will also face the difficult task of getting their candidates known locally. As Rooker, in confident mood, said: "They will be a dead cold and I will put record against them any day I will take on all the social democrats around".

Next: Ronald Kerahau in North-east.

Moderate to contest AUEW post

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The right-wing faction in the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has selected Mr Gavin Laird, a senior executive member, as its candidate to succeed Sir John Boyd as general secretary next year.

Mr Laird, a Scotsman, who will be 48 next month, secured a comfortable overall majority over two other prominent moderates at a meeting of 200 faction members in a trade union club in Derby on Saturday.

He becomes the right's standard bearer in the postal ballot which opens in September for one of the two seats in the union. Mr Terence Duffy secured the presidency last year for seven years after a landslide victory over the

left's candidate, Mr Robert Wright.

The contest for the general secretariat will be three-cornered. The left wing is expected to make a formal choice until April. But Mr Kenneth Brett, for 13 years one of the union's two assistant general secretaries and a communist, is the front runner.

Mr Gerry Russell, the union's north-west executive member and a moderate, is also a contender. He has been secretary of the Labour Party national executive committee, will also run. Mr Russell, though politically a moderate, is not a member of the right-wing group and would be a powerful contender if he managed to get to the second ballot.

Mr Laird is thought to have been the preferred choice of Sir John, whose career in some ways he has closely mirrored and whose influence as the elder statesman of the union's right-wing remains strong.

Mr Laird is a part-time member of the British National Oil Corporation Board and was formerly a Highways and Islands Development Board member. He first made a name in the union as convener at the Singer plant in Clydebank from 1964 to 1971.

His rise to national prominence when he succeeded Sir John as Scottish executive member after a bitterly fought contest with Mr James Reid, the left wing's candidate.

Traditionally, the job of general secretary has been secondary in the AUEW to that of president but under Lord Scanlon and Mr Duffy, Sir John has widened its influence.

New Liberal alliance talks possible

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

A second Liberal association in Liverpool is prepared to give cautious consideration to the prospect of an alliance with the Council for Social Democracy.

Liverpool Tostert division Liberals decided yesterday that if Mr Richard Crosshew, Labour MP for the division, resigns from the Labour Party they would be prepared to discuss the matter with him. But they also decided to proceed later with the selection of a Liberal candidate to fight the constituency at the next general election on the grounds that it is too soon to discuss any formal alliance.

Liberals in the neighbouring Edge Hill division have agreed to ballot their 2,000 members on changing their name to the Liberal and Social Democratic Association. But the ballot would not be held until the "gang of four" leave the Labour party.

MPs' accusation: Paid political agitators have infiltrated constituencies in the North-east in an extremist takeover which is ruining the Labour Party, Mr Mike Thomas MP for Newcastle East, writes in The Journal, the Newcastle newspaper today.

Labour rebels under attack on two fronts

Continued from page 1

The Prime Minister, in her speech on Saturday, said the self-styled social democrats were the direct descendants of the last Labour Government.

She said they were descendants "of the very Labour Party whose attachment to nationalisation, state control, a great extension of trade union power, the destruction of grammar schools and blanket subsidies did so much to undermine Britain's prosperity."

"The recipe offered by the new Limehouse left who, when in power, always surrendered to extremist pressure, is the same old mixture which failed before. It is not so immediately a poison as the Bismarck formula, but deadly none the less."

In a clear reference to Mrs Shirley Williams, Mrs Thatcher said: "Slow motion socialism is socialism all the same and, however gentle the guise, it would damage Britain dangerously to just, just as it has in the past, just as it did when one of them was in power on the Grunwick picket line."

Mr Foot told the Labour local government conference at Blackpool on Saturday that the new party would have little effect on British politics except

to give "momentary assistance" to the Tories.

"It is a very strange moment for anybody to talk about leaving the party when up and down the country there are hungry and thousands of people join it," he said.

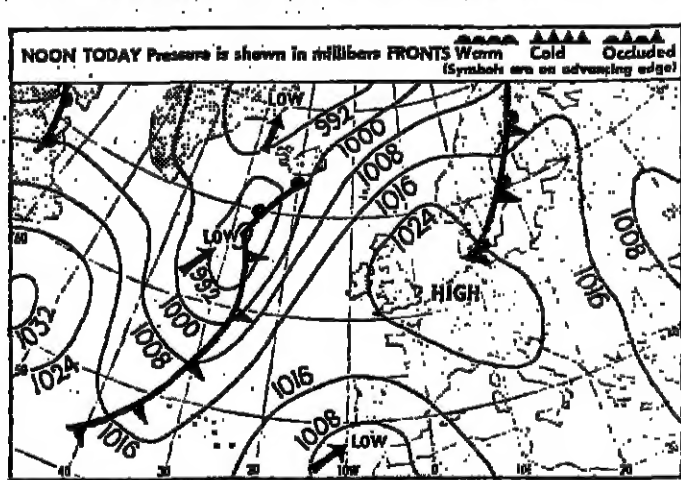
A group of senior Labour councillors issued statements yesterday at the conference, saying that "to leave the party if one loses, the argument defeatist as well as divisive."

They also rejected any proposals to bind candidates to council elections by so-called "loyalty oaths", a proposal originally put forward by a Westminster Labour Party national executive committee but substantially trimmed there.

Among those who signed statements were Mr Jack Smith, chairman of the Association Metropolitan Authorities, Mr Roy Shaw, leader of Lambeth council, Mr Roy Thwait, leader of South Yorkshire council, Mr Oliver Wilkins, leader of Birmingham City Council, Mr John Gurnall, leader of the W. Yorkshire council, and Mr Ian Bramall, leader of Inner London Education Authority.

Leading article, letters, page 2.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 7.13 am Sun sets: 5.17 pm

Moon sets: 5.48 am Moon rises: 2.38 pm

Full moon: February 18

Lighting up: 5.47 pm to 6.41 am

High water: London Bridge noon, 6.5m

Avonmouth 5.11 am, 11.5m

5.48 pm, 12m Dover 9.12 am, 5.9m

9.45 pm, 6m Hull 4.19 am, 6.6m

4.47 pm, 6.8m Liverpool 9.26 am, 5.4m

9.53 pm, 8.5m 1 ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808 ft

There is a ridge of high pressure over Britain.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central S, E England, East Anglia, Midlands: dry, max temp 4 to 6°C (39 to 43°F). Frost early and late.

Channel Islands: dry, sunny periods; wind variable, light; max temp 5°C (41°F).

SW, NW, Central N England, Wales: dry, variable cloud, perhaps a few fog patches at first; wind variable, light becoming S, moderate; max temp 4 to 7°C (39 to 45°F). Frost early and late.

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Saturday

London: Temp: maximum 6 to 8°C (43°F); min: 1 to 3°C (34 to 37°F). Humidity: 6 pm, 60 per cent.

Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 1.037 million.

Level: 6 pm, 1.024 million rising.

1,000 millibars = 29.33 in.

Overseas selling prices

London: 100c = 100p

100c = 100p

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Five factors combine to make English world language, professor says

By Philip Howard
Literary Editor

At a meeting of Convocation of London University on Saturday, Professor Randolph Quirk, the Quain Professor of English Language and Literature at University College, argued with his customary wit and force that English is becoming a world language.

Our English encompasses Paradise Lost and Moby Dick; Shakespeare's plays and Jane Austen's novels; James Thurber's wit and John Lennon's songs. Professor Quirk observed that many languages have a few such triumphs: none but English has such outstanding ones. They have all contributed to making English a "great" language. If there were no other reason, they would be enough to make people in other countries want to learn it.

But such varied works did not (and could not, he argued) make English a world language. For that there had to be other, less uplifting, factors.

For example, one needs population of native speakers. But this of itself is not enough: compare Chinese and Hindi. One needs a wide geographical spread of native speakers. But this of itself is not enough: compare Spanish.

One needs native speakers of inventive genius, and industrial and commercial enterprise. But

HOME NEWS

Whitehall studying extension of Thatcher Administration's policy towards open government

By Peter Hennessy

The Civil Service Department is working on the possibility of extending the Thatcher Administration's open government policy. If the plan is approved, ministries would be obliged to produce to public inquirers details of papers that had become available under the Crampton directive. Whitehall's standing instruction on openness.

When promulgated in 1977, the directive required departments to keep records of material released but the obligation was removed as an economy measure by Mrs Margaret Thatcher shortly after taking office. Since May, 1979, it has been impossible to monitor the effectiveness of the Conservative Cabinet's open government commitment. Nor can members of the public discover what they are able to see if only they asked.

In a letter to Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, and chairman of the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts, who has pressed the Government to extend the production of lists, Mr Bernard Rayhoe, Minister of State at the Civil Service Department, points out that the firm of Chadwyck-Healey will be publishing from April a Catalogue of British Official Publications

not published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office. He goes on: "Where there is no list in a form suitable for issuing to enquirers as it stands, departments are considering whether it will be possible to make the information available in one form or another."

In the aftermath of the killing of Mr Frank Hooley by the Government's "payroll vote", Mr Price intends to support the campaign for greater openness by pressing Mr Rayhoe, after a suitable interval, to tell the Commons what he has done to follow up his letter.

Mr Rayhoe will also face questions from MPs about his remarks on the subject of government information and individual privacy delivered in the course of the debate on the Hooley Bill. "I have a great deal of sympathy with those who argue that the individual should have the right to see personal information (in an official file) and correct it if it is wrong. The growing use of computers, among other systems of recording information, has increased public concern."

Mr Robin Cook, Labour MP for Edinburgh Central, and an opposition spokesman on

Treasury affairs, is considering introducing a Bill under the 10-minute rule to test the Government's attitude to privacy. The Bill would permit an individual to see and check his or her files held by government departments, with the exception of those dealing with security or law enforcement.

Apart from the initiatives of Mr Price on the Crampton directive and Mr Cook on privacy, the parliamentary end of the freedom of information lobby in Britain now seems to be recognising the impossibility of forcing a Bill through the House in the lifetime of the Conservative Government, and will shift its emphasis to achieving greater access to information through the medium of the new departmental Commons select committees.

Another tactic that has found favour with the campaigners is the tacking on of disclosure clauses to government Bills passing through Parliament. The model for it is schedule 5 of the Industry Act, 1975, which, thanks to an amendment proposed by Dr Jeremy Bray, Labour MP for Motherwell, introduced the measure's committee stage, obliges the Treasury to publish some of its economic forecasts and gives the public access to its computer model of the British economy.

Probation officers split over left's role

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

The resignation from the National Association of Probation Officers (NAPO) of a former chairman, Mr Kenneth Howe, and others brings to a head a growing controversy about left-wing influence on its membership.

Mr Howe, who is chairman of a new organization, the National Association of Senior Probation Officers, said in his letter of resignation last week that disunity within NAPO had made dissent unwelcome.

At the first annual general meeting of the new body at Malvern on Saturday a motion asserting its independence was carried by an overwhelming majority. While some seniors had followed Mr Howe's example, others belonging to the new body prefer to work within NAPO for change. Many believe it has been turned into a political pressure group by activists.

Mr Howe has cited its stance on the Grunwick issue and the support among members for legalising cannabis as examples of the way "political" preferences had taken precedence over "professional" responsibility.

Senior probation officers in the new association include those who believe a "little bit of discipline" is no bad thing in the criminal justice system. One reason for the split is the increased numbers of young officers recruited to expand the service after training that traditionalists think emphasizes social work and has undermined the old-style virtues of probation duties.

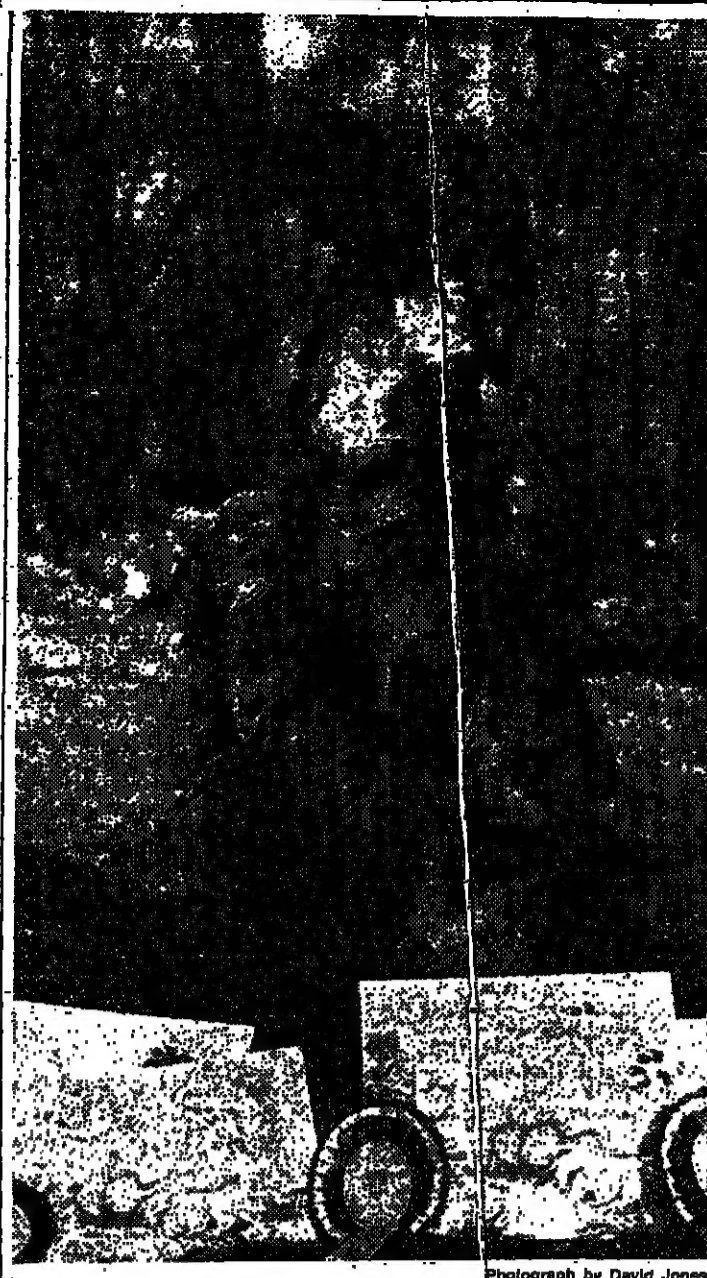
Deputy and assistant chief probation officers have formed an association to seek their own negotiating rights. The senior officers and assistant chiefs are middle managers of the service. Most NAPO members are main (or basic) grade officers.

EXIT votes to publish booklet on euthanasia

Members of EXIT, the Voluntary Euthanasia Society, voted by 306 to eight on Saturday to publish a booklet on methods of mercy killing.

Mr Nicholas Reed, general secretary, said after a meeting in London: "I am delighted that the membership has given the committee this overwhelming majority of support. He intends to go ahead with plans to make the booklet, *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, available to EXIT members in England.

An injunction application on the booklet was taken out by Dr David Scott, MP for the EXIT who disagreed with its contents. Mr Reed plans to have the application halted, claiming that there is nothing in English law to prevent publication of the booklet which outlines five ways to end one's life. "It is a dignified and painless death," Mr Reed said. "The booklet has been available for six months in Scotland and no mass outbreak of suicide has taken place there."



Astley's Portia of Rua, an Irish Red Setter, winner of Cruft's best in show on Saturday.

Lack of phones in Wales may put off investors

From Tim Jones

Cardiff

A lack of private telephones may deter industrialists from establishing factories in Wales, the Post Office Users' Council has warned.

The council is particularly concerned because Wales appears to have been excluded deliberately from guidelines laid down by Sir William Barlow, the chairman of the Post Office, 18 months ago. In a confidential memorandum he said the new policy for the United Kingdom was to cease compulsory sharing of lines as a means of providing services "forthwith".

But the council was informed privately that the principle and the North-east of England had been exempted from the national directive until December, 1980.

In making that declaration, described by some council members as "deliberate discrimination", the board was careful not to mention the fact that it feared a flood of complaints from existing subscribers who have applied unsuccessfully to be taken off a shared line.

When they met last month the council members said they

were dismayed to learn that British Telecommunications was unable to fulfil its promise to cease all compulsory sharing by the end of 1980.

Council members were angered further when told by Mr K. E. Spurluck, chairman of the Telecommunications Board for Wales and the Marches, that the existing policy was to be extended until March, 1982. Mr Spurluck added that he was only optimistic that line-sharing could be ended by then and could give no guarantee.

Mr Robert Richards, secretary of the council, said: "We seem to be in a rather coming into line with the rest of the country. The areas of greatest difficulty in providing telephones seem unfortunately to coincide with prime sites which could interest potential investors. One of our concerns is that if they cannot even get a private telephone to themselves in their houses, they will be deterred from coming to the area."

The board said the difficulty had been caused by under-investment as they had not expected some years ago the huge increase in demand for telephones in the Principality.

Arson seen as likeliest cause of Dublin fire

From David Nicholson Lord

Dublin

Arson has emerged as the likeliest cause of the fire at the Stardust club, in the Dublin suburb of Ardara, early on Saturday, in which 48 young people died, although officially the police are keeping an open mind.

After an emergency meeting of the Irish Cabinet yesterday, Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister, announced that the criminal to look into the disaster would be headed by a High Court judge.

A motion to set up an inquiry, which would be empowered to make wide-ranging recommendations, will be introduced in the Dail on Wednesday. The Government has also told local fire authorities to make an urgent review of procedures, and will have an early meeting with the recently established Fire Prevention Council.

The moves follow criticisms that fire prevention work in the republic continues to be seriously neglected despite the controversy over the fire at the Central Hotel, Bandon, in Donegal, last summer when ten people died.

Distraught families remained outside mortuaries in the city yesterday for more than 24 hours. Bodies were badly burnt, but by last night about a third of the 48 had been identified. More than 100 people are in hospital and at least a dozen are seriously ill.

Many sports fixtures were cancelled yesterday as well as the annual conference of the ruling Fianna Fail party, for which more than 6,000 delegates had arrived in Dublin. Tomorrow will be a day of national mourning. Schools and public buildings will be closed.

Police were last night interviewing a girl who was reported to have seen youths setting fire to the seats with matches minutes before the fire started. Mrs Teresa Marley, the husband's sister, said she had one should have been in the curtains off area.

The disaster has led to strong criticisms of fire precautions from the Fire Prevention Council and the Fire Officers' Association.

Among criticisms are that building regulations similar to those operating in Britain and governing factors such as the flammability of materials have remained in draft form since being proposed five years ago. Most fire authorities, according to the association, do not have a fire prevention officer and some are also without chief fire officers at present because of a dispute over their terms of employment.

March cancelled: A Republican Black march in Belfast was called off yesterday as a mark of respect for the people who died in the fire (the Press Association reports).

ing competition at 1.30am when the fire was spotted.

Miss Elizabeth Marley, aged 19, the waitress who raised the alarm, said yesterday that she saw two chairs alight in an area of 18 rows of cinema-style seats which was not in use and curtains off by fire screens installed only a few weeks ago.

"I told the barman and the bouncers and between 12 and 15 of them rushed to the fire and tried to put it out with fire extinguishers. One of them opened a fire prevention screen and the flames just leapt out across the ceiling."

Although sick jockeys told people not to panic, within four or five minutes visibility was nil because of thick black smoke of a plastic-based material, melted and dripped on to people below. Then the lights went out.

In the panic teenagers fell and trampled on each other and smashed steel-framed windows to get out. Many apparently made for the main entrance rather than safety exits, and some attempts were made by people coming in from outside searching for friends.

Reports that the safety doors were locked, backed yesterday by Dr Noel Browne, a member of the Irish Parliament, have been denied by club staff. Police were last night interviewing a girl who was reported to have seen youths setting fire to the seats with matches minutes before the fire started. Mrs Teresa Marley, the husband's sister, said she had one should have been in the curtains off area.

The disaster has led to strong criticisms of fire precautions from the Fire Prevention Council and the Fire Officers' Association.

Among criticisms are that building regulations similar to those operating in Britain and governing factors such as the flammability of materials have remained in draft form since being proposed five years ago. Most fire authorities, according to the association, do not have a fire prevention officer and some are also without chief fire officers at present because of a dispute over their terms of employment.

March cancelled: A Republican Black march in Belfast was called off yesterday as a mark of respect for the people who died in the fire (the Press Association reports).

'I lay still after six shots hit me', Mrs McAliskey says

Mrs Bernadette McAliskey described yesterday how she survived an attack by a gunman who shot her repeatedly as she lay still on the bedroom floor of her isolated cottage in January.

"I lay absolutely still and quiet. I remember concentrating on keeping breathing," the former Westminster MP said. "If I could keep breathing I still would be living."

Mrs McAliskey and her husband Michael were severely injured in the attack. She lay on the floor for 15 minutes before being found by a neighbour. She hit the floor face down and still conscious. "I lay there for what seemed an awfully long time the man standing behind me. Then he fired again."

According to the report in northern editions of *The Sunday World*, other bullets hit Mrs McAliskey, one in the right arm near the elbow, a second in the left upper arm, a third in the left hip, and the fourth in the right leg.

By this time I was out of the bed and was about to rush from the room when I remembered that Pinta (her two-year-old son) was still in the bed.

"I turned back to lift him and as I did I became aware of a man coming to the bedroom doorway. He fired almost immediately. The bullet went right through me, in my back and exiting from my chest. I fell forward on to the floor."

She hit the floor face down and still conscious. "I lay there for what seemed an awfully long time the man standing behind me. Then he fired again."

Scots fishermen continue port blockades

From Ronald Faux

Aberdeen

Fishermen were preparing to blockade the Alport market today to prevent freezer container lorries with imported fish from unloading. The fishermen, angry and dissatisfied with the Government's assurances about the Flood of cheap imports, have blocked the entrance to the fish harbour with a line of vessels tied together with steel hawsers.

Privately-owned boats and company trawlers were prevented from putting to sea last night under protest. A further 170 boats were blocked in.

Action committees voted to continue the protest even though boats from English ports were putting to sea and the Scottish Fish Producers' Association had narrowly voted to end the protest.

An association, official in Aberdeen said yesterday that the city's market was likely to be inundated with foreign fish today.

"We will do everything we can to turn away the lorries," he said. "Eight boats are blocking the entrance to the fishing port but no other commercial traffic in Aberdeen is being held up."

The fishermen have been told that under the tariff regulations fish is coming into the country through the Humber ports at up to £2.50 a stone cheaper than fish merchants could supply if they had to buy fish caught by the Scottish boats at the minimum price.

An Aberdeen skipper said the result was that fish brought half the price it should do and he felt it totally uneconomic to go to sea.

In Peterhead, Mr Jake Maclean, a skipper, said: "We all would prefer to be back at work and all we want is an absolutely clear statement and assurance from the Government that they are going to do something positive about this."

The men were angry that the SWFPA, which represents about 400 boats between the ports of Wick and Anstruther, had recommended a return to work and said that fish salesmen who were delegates to the organization had held the balance in the vote. One skipper explained that most fishermen wanted to continue the protest action.

SOMALIA DISASTER VICTIMS

face death from starvation

"The terrifying situation is worsening with every day that passes... malnutrition is having an appalling effect on the old", reports Help the Aged's Director.

Hunger threatens to kill many more helpless old people unless extra supplies come soon.

Help the Aged is setting up a special medical programme to give urgently needed treatment, as its nurses continue to work among the worst affected sufferers. They and volunteer workers are severely short of essential supplies.

In the name of humanity can each of us do less than send a lifeline of help for at least one of the victims—quickly.

Please send generously to: Hon Treasurer, The Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, Help the Aged, Room T65, FREE-POST 30, London W1E 7JZ. (No stamp needed).

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Immigration appeals system criticized

By Lucy Hodges

The immigration appeals system is criticized for not doing enough to protect the rights of the individual in a briefing paper published today by the Runnymede Trust.

The paper says there is clearly much wrong with the system of immigration appeals and that it fails to meet the standards of a fair trial in a matter of course in other areas of law.

Because of that the making of representations to the Home Office by MPs is an important check on administrative discretion "and an essential complement to an appeals system which is quite unsatisfactory", it says. It recommends that an independent review of the appeals system be set up.

The Home Office is making its own internal inquiry into the system and the briefing paper clearly calculated to influence that. The trust is worried that the Government may try to reduce MPs' powers to interfere in immigration cases.

Mr Timothy Raison, minister of state at the Home Office, has said that MPs' involvement in these cases spins them out for months. Last year he said: "What is not reasonable in my law is for someone to claim further stop on action to remove (an immigrant) just because he dislikes my decision, then he cannot offer solid grounds for challenging it."

The briefing paper says there could be no need for MPs' representations if the appeal sys-

tem were fair and seen to be so. Appeals in immigration matters go first to an immigration appeals adjudicator and from there to the Immigration Appeals Tribunal. Some cases go to the tribunal direct.

"There is a limited and qualified right of appeal in deportation cases which can often only be made from outside the United Kingdom. The chances of having an appeal upheld either by an adjudicator or by the tribunal are not high."

In 1979 the adjudicators upheld 14.8 per cent of appeals they heard while the tribunal allowed 14.8 per cent. Appeals to the tribunal made by the Home Office against adjudicators' decisions are significantly more successful than those made by immigrants.

The paper complains that the burden of proof in immigration appeals is placed on the person appealing. "It is for him or her to convince the appellate authority that the decision appealed against was wrong."

It criticizes the rules of procedure for giving adjudicators too much discretion in the conduct of hearings and it says it is wrong for the "written statement of facts" to be prepared by the Home Office, which is a party to the proceedings.

The Pilot of the System—a briefing paper on Immigration Appeals, (Runnymede Trust, 16-18 Stratton Ground, London SW1P 2HP; £1.50 and 25p postage).

Chancellor poll ends in acrimony

By a Staff Reporter

Polling in the election for Chancellor of London University, in which the candidates are Princess Anne, Mr Jack Jones and Mr Nelson Mandela, closed on a note of acrimony on Saturday. The university convocation censured its standing committee for "unusually and unbefittingly" in summoning the meeting to elect the new chancellor.

Princess Anne is still regarded as favourite to win the election the result of which will be declared today or tomorrow. But convocation gave a clear indication by a second motion, also carried, that in future there should be a longer period for nominations.

The closing date for the nomination of chancellorship candidates is fixed at 42 days before the meeting at which the result is to be announced. The election was scheduled originally for February 3 and Princess Anne would then have been elected automatically had her candidature been unopposed.

The second motion said convocation, desiring to prevent a repetition of the inconvenience consequent upon the over-short interval between the resignation of the last chancellor, the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, last December and the closing of nominations for her successor, recommended a new standing order that a minimum period of three calendar months should elapse between the announcement of a chancellor's resignation or death and the closing of nominations for candidates.

From the grassroots: Government's image may cut party votes in May Dorset Tories facing strong Liberal challenge

By Ian Bradley

Dorset

The Conservatives in west Dorset are formidably well organized. For example, all of the 12 village branches and five town branches in the constituency have been told what still they will be running at the annual fete at the end of July.

Over the weekend they were beginning to plan the detailed operation of coconut sales and tombolas.

Their electoral machinery is also being prepared for May's county council elections. For many years Conservatives have been returned unopposed in several parts of the county. But this year, they are expecting a strong challenge from the Liberals, who they complain are using dirty tactics in an effort to win votes.

Mr James Spicer, MP for Dorset West, told the annual meeting of the local branch of the Conservatives on Friday evening: "There is a school in Burton Bradstock with more than 60 pupils. There is no intention of closing it. Yet every house in the village has had a notice shoved through the door saying 'Your school is in danger'."

"And in a few weeks I expect to see Liberals taking the credit for saving it. With all the Liberals who are leading people who are totally irresponsible."

The Conservative majority on Dorset County Council has adhered rigidly to a Thatcherite line on reducing public spending. They are proud to have kept this year's rate increase to less than 10 per cent and to have reduced staff by more than 1,000 in the past 12 months, although there is still a feeling among many Conservatives that not enough administrators have been made redundant.

Dorset was the first county to abolish meals in primary schools. Tory councillors say that as a result local parents have often got together and, sometimes using the school cooks, have provided better and cheaper meals for their children without administrative overheads.

But there is a fear that national issues and dissatisfaction

with the government will cause the Conservatives to lose votes in the May elections. A group of Conservatives in Sherborne expressed doubts about the Government's image and supported Mr Pym's call last week for a return to the centre ground.

Mrs Anne Chapman, vice-chairman of the association, said: "Our message is that we lack the common touch. Mr Healey is much easier to understand than Sir Keith Joseph."

Mr Terence Farmer, former Liberal MP for the constituency, said: "I do not like too much rigidity and sticking to doctrinaire policies. The Government must show some flexibility. The Tory party is at its best when it maintains the centre ground of politics."

Although west Dorset lacks large-scale industry and has escaped mass unemployment, its many small industries have been badly affected by the strength of the pound and high interest rates.

Mr Spicer said that three years ago the Newbridge Boat Company in Bridport was exporting three quarters of its output. Last year it exported nothing.

He told the meeting at Folke: "I think the Government has very little time left to help small firms. It must do something in the Budget to reduce the minimum lending rates and reduce the value of the pound."

Ultimately, however, matters of organization rather than national policy dominated the meeting. The two most hotly debated items on the branch's agenda were whether enough profit could be made on the milk bar which is running at the farm and whether 500 national policy dominated the meeting. The two most hotly debated items on the branch's agenda were whether enough profit could be made on the milk bar which is running at the farm and whether 500

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Newcastle school beatings inquiry sought

Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education, has been asked to send inspectors to four schools in Newcastle upon Tyne where beatings are alleged to have reached a high level.

The Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment (STOPP) says in a letter to Mr Carlisle that at these schools corporal punishment is used more than once a week.

"An inspection is necessary to investigate what appears to be an intensive and callous approach to young children, demonstrated by the frighteningly high level of corporal punishment."

The society claims that children of primary school age are seven times more likely to be beaten at school in Newcastle than in any other area in England.

Education authority statistics, it adds, show 91 cases of corporal punishment for Newcastle children aged 13 and under between September, 1979, and July last year, 729 of them in children aged between four and 11.

Two schools had admitted eating children for not doing well enough at school work. It was also claimed recently that Newcastle had the most beatings in secondary schools, after which the city council led to consult teachers about abolishing such punishment.

Mr Jack Chadderton, Newcastle's director of education, said: "STOPP is making broad generalizations on figures from the education department and there is no national or regional figures to compare areas." He refused to name the schools involved.

Mr John Shipley, the Liberal MP for the city, said he agreed with the demands for an inquiry and he called for the schools to be identified.

The figures are very disturbing, he said. "It is not in the parental interest that a well-behaved child is being drawn over this."

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No Stone Age art in cave, experts decide

By Norman Hammond

Archaeology Correspondent

An official inspection of the "Stone Age art" claimed to exist in a cave at Symonds Yat, Herefordshire, has shown "absolutely conclusively" that there is nothing there, it has been announced.

Mr Gale Sieveking, of the British Museum, who made the inspection with Dr Geoffrey Wainwright, of the Department of Ancient Monuments, and Dr Mark Newcomer, of London University, an expert in the engraving capabilities of palaeolithic stone tools, said: "We examined with extreme care the 'bison' and the head of a deer. In neither case could we find a single artificially engraved line."

Mrs Anne Sieveking, a specialist in palaeolithic art, said that even the natural colouring of the rocks did not resemble any known Stone Age examples.

Anna Ford complaint against Sunday paper is rejected by Press Council

A complaint by Anna Ford, the Independent Television News presenter, that without getting in touch with those concerned the *News of the World* published a story about her article in effect accusing her of unprofessional conduct, has been rejected by the Press Council.

The *News of the World* said that on ITN there was an awkward moment when Miss Ford had to mention her former boyfriend, John Snow, then reporting from Afghanistan. Their broken romance had created an atmosphere and later they would exchange moody, meaningful glances. Colleagues said the affair ended because Miss Ford wanted to marry and have children, while Mr Snow felt it was too early to shoulder the burdens of parenthood.

Through solicitors Miss Ford complained to the Press Council that the article contained not one word of truth and the

writer had not discussed it with her. It was untrue that there was an atmosphere, or that moody, meaningful glances were exchanged. Both were anxious to have children and the relationship ended for completely different reasons. The article suggested she behaved unprofessionally, being unable to separate her private and public lives.

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HOME NEWS

Labour groups aiming to cut or freeze public transport fares

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Labour authorities in London and the six other main city areas in England are planning a concerted policy to cut or at least freeze public transport fares in order to reverse the continuing decline in the services.

Such a commitment will have to be paid for out of the rates but the seven councils have asked for a pledge from the party nationally that the next Labour government will increase transport subsidies to help them.

The Labour group on the Greater London Council is committed to a 25 per cent cut in fares if it wins the election in May, but the others are hoping to agree within the next fortnight to freeze fares, if not reduce them, as the main plank in their election platform.

The other Labour groups involved, which all face elections in May, are from West Midlands, Tyne and Wear, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside.

After meeting Mr Albert Booth, opposition spokesman on transport, at the local government conference, they complained that Tory ministers had

cut public expenditure and made it clear that if transport was to be kept running with less money, authorities must raise fares and cut services.

"The Labour Party rejects this approach. We will protect transport just as education, housing and other social services need to be protected.

"There is no point in allowing the public transport system to shrink to a size where services are not in reach of people's homes or running at fares that people cannot afford, or not running at all in off-peak hours."

Mr Booth said the authorities were asking that if they stood together and took the rap for keeping fares down, they should be armed with assurances of help from a future Labour government.

He would argue very strongly in favour of it and he hoped the party would agree on such action. The authorities involved are increasingly concerned that by putting up fares fewer passengers use the service, which then has to be cut again.

They believe that the extra amount demanded in rates to pay for subsidizing public transport can be quickly offset by making more use of public transport.

Disabled councillors hounded, MP says

Mr Alfred Morris, opposition spokesman on the disabled, yesterday accused the Department of Health and Social Security of "hounding and hounding" disabled people off local authorities. He is to take up cases with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State, in the Commons.

"There will be a massive row about this outrage", Mr Morris said.

He cited the case of Mr Douglas Grimwood, a seriously disabled person, who is chairman of Ipswich housing committee.

"A DHSS investigator has told him that if he is fit enough to be chairman of the housing committee, he is fit enough for full-time work and thus must sacrifice his invalidity benefit. But no fewer than five doctors have agreed that he is unfit for full-time employment."

Mr Morris said that Ipswich Labour Party was paying Mr Grimwood the difference between unemployment pay and invalidity benefit.

He said he had also been told that two Labour councillors in Southampton have been similarly warned by the department.

"It is beginning to look like a pattern of persecution against disabled people and it is time for the Government to stop the hounding and act to stop or at least to ease the fears of disabled people who serve on local authorities."

Mr Grimwood, aged 46, last night welcomed the highlighting of his case. He was crippled in a saw mill accident in 1959 and walks with the help of crutches.

He had been told by doctors and specialists that he could work at most for two hours a day in employment of a sedentary nature.

"I want to contribute to the community and doctors said being a councillor would be good therapy for me as well. Since my benefit was taken away we have had to survive on £35 a week. I refuse to give in to the DHSS and give up being a councillor, but I do want my benefit back."

When he lost his benefit, the department claimed back payments of £1,400. The claim was dropped after two appeals. Later this month he is to put his case for regaining benefit to the Ombudsman.

Chinese ceramics unsold at Christie's Tokyo sale

By Geraldine Norman

Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's had an uphill struggle with its sales of Chinese and Japanese works of art in Tokyo yesterday. The most important items of Chinese ceramics remained unsold.

The explanation given for the disaster by the auctioneer was that the two sales of Chinese art from the Edward Chow collection held by Sotheby's in Hong Kong and London last autumn.

Prices for items from that famous collection went through the roof and the owners consigning goods to Christie's for their Tokyo sale had hoped to match the Chow price level.

The top price paid was 7.2m yen (estimated 3.5m to 4.5m yen) or £15,185 for a Ryukyu island red lacquer writing box and cover inlaid with mother of pearl, and dating from the seventeenth century. It was bought by a German dealer in Japan for a Japanese client.

The sale of Japanese art included a group of 38 lots of Japanese lacquer, recently deaccessioned by the Metropolitan Museum in New York. "Deaccessioning" is the term used by American museums to describe selling off art works that they do not want. The items in the group were sold for 13m yen (£27,500), slightly less than had been hoped for.

On Saturday, Christie's had offered their Tokyo clients an important sale of Impressionist modern pictures which totalled £127,221, with 38 per cent unsold. The price of the sale, a Renoir portrait of a girl combing her hair, painted in

1896, was secured by a Swiss collector bidding over the telephone from London at 130m yen (£274,163).

Christie's had not hazarded a public estimate on that lot, nor on the more important Fougita paintings. Fougita, a Japanese artist who worked in France and died in 1968, is much prized by his countrymen. The sale underlined how much higher prices are for his work in Japan than in the West.

A new auction record price for his work was established when a painting of a woman seated in a French café sold for 80m yen (£168,716). It was bought by a Japanese dealer on behalf of a Japanese private collector.

Another important work by the artist, a reclining nude with cat looking over her shoulder, was bought in at 68m yen (£143,460) because the bidding had not come up to the minimum price acceptable to its owner.

Christie's also held a sale of modern prints in Tokyo totalling £22,096, with 18 per cent unsold.

In New York on Saturday Sotheby's also had difficulties with a two-session sale of Oriental rugs and carpets. About a third of the £573,727 total representative unsold lots; 115 out of the 347 lots failed to find buyers. The Metropolitan Museum was also a seller in this auction; they received \$20,000 (estimate \$7,000 to \$10,000) or £36,600 from a Swiss dealer for a Laver Kilim rug, carpet of about 1875 (22ft 4in by 15ft 2in).

Painting by Fougita, page 14

Lively chess at British championship

By Our Chess Correspondent

Two more games were played at the weekend in the match for the Grieverson Grant Chess Championship at the RAC Club in Pall Mall. Both were drawn after much lively play and although Nunn missed out in the long second game on Saturday, the score of 11-11 accurately represents the level nature of the play.

Sunday's game, in which Harston had White, was a modern Benoni opening and was full of tactical finesse, the draw coming on the thirty-second move when a double rook and pawn ending had been reached.

Three more games are due to be played. If all those are drawn then John Nunn wins the title as he has the superior Sonneborn-Berger score from the Grieverson Grant Championship tournament played last August at Chester. Today is a free day and the fourth game will be played tomorrow, with Nunn having the white pieces.

Council will sue over demolition of almshouses

By Our Planning Reporter

South Kesteven district council is to prosecute the owners of a group of former almshouses in Denton, Lincolnshire, which were allegedly demolished without listed building consent.

The prosecution will be brought under Section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1971. Magistrates may impose a maximum fine of £1,000 or a six-month prison sentence, or both.

The seventeenth-century ironstone cottages were demolished last December, soon after the council had served a repair notice. The owners have since been demolishing the buildings were structurally dangerous.

Mr Geoffrey Swallow, chairman of the planning committee, said yesterday that it had deferred a decision on whether to take enforcement action, which would require the cottages to be rebuilt in their original form.

WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

US-Soviet arms race criticized in Germany

From Our Correspondent

Berlin, Feb 15

The American intention of first gaining military ascendancy over the Soviet Union before resuming negotiations, has come in for some public criticism from Herr Egon Bahr, architect of West Germany's Ostpolitik and the departing manager of the Social Democratic Party (SPD).

Such a course of action by either side would lead nowhere, he said in an interview with the news magazine *Der Spiegel*. There was no alternative but to negotiate, Herr Bahr said. Everything else would lead into an abyss.

He emphasized the need to fulfil both parts of the Nato resolution—to arm while negotiating on disarmament. He suggested that whoever in the United States kind of negotiations did the same to the decision on stationing American medium-range weapons in Europe from 1983.

Herr Bahr's reaction to a comment that he looked as though the Russians were killing negotiations was: "What the Soviet Union did, going on to produce and station arms, could be called stupid but the USSR was not violating any treaty by doing so."

Herr Bahr spoke of growing concern in France over the Soviet armament effort—the scope for action among other states grew less as the tension among the super powers increased. He dismissed as nonsense a suggestion that West Germany was interested in neutralization.

Naples area shaken by tremor

From John Earle

Rome, Feb 15

Eleven people died after a strong quake last night shook the area east of Naples devastated by the earthquake of November 23. Eight people died of heart attacks, while three prisoners at Naples' main jail of Poggioreale were killed.

Signor Giuseppe Zamberletti, the Government Commissioner for Earthquake Relief, toured the area by helicopter today to assess the damage. Much of the region is under snow, with temperatures down to -8°C (-46°F). Reports spoke of fallen masonry and of disrupted telephone and electricity links, but one direct line was still working.

The Vesuvius observatory said last night's shock, at 6.27 pm, was the most severe of 18 registered in the 24 hours up to 9 am today.

Heir to throne marries in Luxembourg

Luxembourg, Feb 15

Prince Henri of Luxembourg, aged 25, heir to the throne of the Grand Duchy, married a Swiss, commander of Cuban origin, in a ceremony attended by several European kings, queens and princes.

Miss Marie-Thérèse Mestre, also 25, will become a grand duchess when Prince Henri succeeds his father, Grand Duke Jean, in the throne. She is the daughter of a Cuban family, her family left Havana. She met the prince at Geneva university, where both studied political science.

The guests included Queen Margrethe of Denmark, King Leopold of Belgium, King Baudouin of Belgium, who is the bridegroom's uncle, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco, and members of the Spanish, Dutch and Swedish royal families.

Reuter.

Spaniards demand repeal of anti-terrorism law

Continued from page 1

on his feet, bruises on several parts of his body and eye injuries including detachment of one of the eye from its socket.

Widespread news coverage and indignation over the full and prompt release of the Spanish state radio were signs that if some of the police still have learnt nothing after four years of democracy Spanish public opinion has been shocked and outraged.

There is also scepticism expressed by the officials responsible will be rigorously punished.

The Arraigal death may have immediate repercussions for the vote of confidence Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo is seeking this week from Parliament in order to form a new Government. His Centre Democratic Union party is 11 seats short of a majority and was looking to the regional parties for support.

But the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) today indicated its reservations. As the governing party in the Basque region it did not support the anti-terrorism law passed by the Cortes last December. It was this law that permitted the Madrid police to hold Señor Arraigal incommunicado and without legal assistance for a statutory 10-day period.

Señor Marcos Vivero, the PNV spokesman who last week negotiated in Madrid with the Prime Minister designate about his party's possible support,

100,000 farmers in street protest over food pricing policies

From Gretel Spitzer

Berlin, Feb 15

The largest demonstration by West German farmers since the end of the last war saw more than 100,000 take to the streets in 150 cities and towns, yesterday in protest at West German and EEC agricultural policies.

The farmers' protest was sparked by indignation and frustration over their decreasing income and, in their view, the insufficient price increases for agricultural products scheduled by the EEC, cuts in subsidies imposed by the Bonn Government, an alleged lack of Government interest in the farmers' lot, and their poor image among the population.

Some of the speakers predict that this protest might only be a beginning, that the wind could turn into a storm if the farmers' demands were not met quickly.

The speakers included Herr Constantin von Heeremann, president of the farmers' association. He said in Westphalia that the farmers income went down 30 per cent in the last five years. Herr Gustav Süßler, president of the Bavarian Farmers' Association, speaking in Munich at

one of the largest rallies with more than 30,000 people taking part, strongly criticized the state's financial austerity measures, which hit farmers most seriously by making a quarter of the total cuts in farm subsidies.

Farmers also feared that individual EEC member states will do more to protect their national agriculture should no satisfactory agreement be reached in Brussels, making the West German farmers' lot more difficult. This is because, as some posters claimed, Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, unlike President Giscard d'Estaing of France, failed to fight for their interests.

A West German paper summed up the present mood of farmers by saying they felt themselves to be the nation's scapegoats, wrongly accused of living at the taxpayers' expense, blamed for poisoning people (horizons in veil, for instance), and for cruelty to animals.

The extent of the demonstration and the speech showed how common such grievances are, and that farmers are about to lose patience if their part is not sufficiently appreciated.



Prince Claus with Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

Prince Claus divests himself of media 'left wing' label

From Robert Schull

Amsterdam, Feb 15

Prince Claus of the Netherlands last night deflected allegations in the world's press that he was left wing in his political outlook.

"I really don't know what I am," he said in response to the issue in question. "I am not a homogenous person in this respect—I'm afraid I'm more of a political hybrid," he said as guest of honour at a dinner given by the Foreign Press Association in the Netherlands.

The prince, who is special adviser to the Minister of Development, Cooperation, said: "The notions right or left as pointing to the outer ends of the political spectrum of our pluriform system of parliamentary democracy have never meant a great deal to me personally."

He delivered his speech in the form of an interview because "many of your colleagues—maybe some of you present here—are said to be of the opinion that the members of the Dutch royal family are much too tight-lipped and give far too few interviews."

Prince Claus parried his first question on how it felt to be a prince consort by saying that the title does not officially exist in the Netherlands.

"It only means to say in colloquial language that you are the Queen's husband. So when my wife became Queen I—in this colloquial sense—automatically became prince consort."

"The wife of a king or queen, on the other hand, becomes queen. Some sort of discrimination, one could argue. But please don't jump to conclusions now, otherwise we'll have headlines like 'Claus: Discrimination—why not king for me?'"

Describing as a "legal fiction" the assumption that for constitutional reasons some people in public life are not supposed to have opinions of their own on controversial matters, Prince Claus said that the left wing label pinned on him was due to the fact that since his marriage in 1966, he has been engaged in such matters as ecology, city planning, protecting nature and development in the Third World.

"Some people at the time thought these to be of the domain of the so-called political left. Maybe there was some truth in this reasoning at the very beginning."

"But now we have in this country—with gradations—quite a consensus on most of the problems connected with the aforementioned sectors of modern society," he said.

Although he was not opposed to discussions about shortcomings in the flow of information around the world and the improvement of its quality, he believed that a prerequisite was that the principle of the freedom of the press not to be jeopardized.

Best actress award for Dame Peggy

By Kenneth Gosling

Amsterdam, Feb 15

Dame Peggy Ashcroft has won the award for best actress at the Monte Carlo television festival. It was for her performance in the BBC 2 Playhouse production of Stephen Poliakoff's play *Caught on a Train*.

Independent Television News won the Golden Nymph, the best show, and to *Three Summers*, by Nippon Hoso Kyokai of Japan for best scenario.

Andrei Kharitonov was named best actor for his role in *Oestre* by Soviet television.

The Prince Rainier of Monaco prize for best programme on nature and the environment went to *Last Round-up*, a programme in the Survival Series by Anglia Television of Britain.

Special mention was given in the television film category to *Avernes*, by Spanish television, the fiction show, and to *Three Summers*, by Nippon Hoso Kyokai of Japan for best scenario.

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Solidarity's good-will gesture to new Premier

Polish labour disputes subside

From Dossa Trevisan

Warsaw, Feb 15

Leaders of the independent Polish trade union organisation Solidarity have not yet replied to the call by General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the new Prime Minister, for 90 days' free of strikes but they have shown more readiness to meet the Government's request provided that they get tangible proof that its promises will be carried out.

A sign of the good will brought about by the change at the top of the Government is the fact that all uncoordinated local strikes have been banned by Solidarity's leaders who have urged the farmers not to strike in support of their demands for an independent farmers' union.

Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity's leader, has also urged striking students in Lodz to settle their dispute with the Government and has said that the Government should be given the chance to prove itself.

Some 10,000 students have been occupying Lodz university for 27 days and are backed by other Polish university student organizations. They have been negotiating with the Govern-

ment for several days over issues which are not only academic but political.

Both sides are now under pressure to bring negotiations to a halt, as failure would clearly lead to sympathy strikes at other universities. But a last minute hitch last night on the form of registration of what is to be the first independent student union delayed the agreement and talks were resumed today on the perennial question of recognizing the leading role of the Communist Party.

A settlement with the students would mean greater autonomy for universities and direct participation by students in the running of universities.

When the strike began 24 days ago the students presented a 52-point list of demands many of which are of a political nature. Negotiations with the Ministry of Education led to a settlement whereby compulsory courses in Russian and in Marxism were dropped.

The students agreed not to press political demands such as a reduction of military service from two years to three months. Apart from the continuing occupation by farmers of a

public building in Rzeszow in support of their demands for legislation permitting a rural branch of Solidarity Poland is now free from labour disputes. The psychological effect of the appointment of General Jaruzelski as Prime Minister has been good on the whole. He will personally supervise—apart from defence, of which he remains in charge as Minister of Defence—foreign affairs, security, justice and religious affairs.

He has shown that he intends to move quickly and he has lost no time in producing results. The Cabinet was reorganized and responsibilities assigned to six deputy Prime Ministers who will be responsible directly to General Jaruzelski. Talks with Solidarity on a new trade union Bill were resumed over the weekend and will obviously be speeded up.

Mr Stanislaw Kania, the Polish leader, went to Prague today for a brief meeting with President Gustav Husak. They were said to have reached mutual agreement and understanding on all the questions. Prague, like East Berlin, has taken an extremely hard line over Poland's independent trade unions.

TUC offer of help to Walesa movement

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

The TUC has broken its embargo on relations with the Poles by appealing to affiliated organizations to come forward with offers of help for Mr Lech Walesa's independent trade union movement, Solidarity.

The TUC International Committee, which has now taken over responsibility for this issue after the humiliating collapse of a trade-related visit to Poland due to be made by the Economic Committee last autumn, has recommended that British unions should supply office equipment. The TUC may also train Solidarity activists.

In a circular to more than 100 affiliated unions, Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC, has made clear the TUC's "strong wish to respond positively to requests from Solidarity for trade union assistance". Unions have been asked to tell Congress House what help they can provide. The TUC forms support will depend on the needs and wishes of Solidarity, but the TUC suggests donations of basic office equipment, duplicating and printing machinery, not readily available in Poland. It is likely that such supplies will be sent via Sweden.

The TUC may also eventually provide places for Solidarity workplace representatives on courses for basic trade union training, a move likely to prove a good deal more controversial.

Mr Haig not convinced El Salvador is 'lost'

From Patrick Brogan

Washington, Feb 15

The new American Government, has yet to decide on its tactics towards Central America. The policy of President Reagan and his General Secretary is perfectly clear. They do not want any communist regimes established in the region, and will do whatever is necessary to stop any such development.

The problem, which also confronts President Carter, is how to attain this objective. Many influential conservative Americans, including former supporters of the late General Somoza, believe that Nicaragua has gone communist. Mr Haig is sure that the same right-wingers believe that the present government in El Salvador is incapable of defeating the leftist insurgency.

Mr Haig is not persuaded. The American ambassador to

El Salvador has been dismissed and the ambassador to Nicaragua has been recalled for consultation.

Aid to Nicaragua has been suspended temporarily, and various pretexts adopted while the State Department decides whether the Sandinist Government is a lost cause.

The identity of the man chosen will be an indication of what the Secretary of State thinks the right policy should be. A hardliner, acceptable to such congressional right-wingers as Senator Jesse Helms, would be appropriate if a policy of out-and-out confrontation with leftists is to be pursued in Central America.

The appointment of a more moderate man would suggest that Mr Haig believes that diplomacy and persuasion have their role in defeating communism.

Diplomat freed by Cuban hostage-takers

Havana, Feb 15—A group of would-be emigrants who seized the Ecuadorian Embassy have freed one of four hostages held under a death threat.

A reliable diplomatic source named him as Señor Guillermo Basante, who became the Secretary Jorge Perez Concha's Ambassador, and two other hostages were still being held by the Cuban group, who include four women and six children.

The Cubans who stormed the embassy last week were armed and had threatened to kill their captives if their demands were not met, the source added.

Cuba said yesterday that it would not give in to them. The press newspaper *Granma* said: "If the Ecuadorian authorities ask for help, security forces will immediately proceed to disarm the kidnappers and free the hostages."—Reuter.

Party leaders fight for survival

From Mario Modiano

Amsterdam, Feb 15

Turkey's two most prominent politicians, relegated to compulsory redundancy by the country's military regime, seem determined to fight for political survival in the new parliament.

Between them, Mr Süleyman Demirel and his arch rival, Mr Bulent Ecevit, have controlled this country's destinies as prime ministers for the best part of the last 16 years.

Today, their parties, the conservative Justice Party and the social-democratic People's Republican Party, have been closed by the military and after a spell of detention they were warned against making political statements.

The ruling generals have made it clear that even when the country returns to political normality, these politicians will be disqualified as leaders by legislation that will limit the role of a party leader.

There are now ominous signs that the regime, incensed by the political bickering that paralysed parliamentary business in recent years, intends to completely bar members of the last parliament from politics.

It was Mr Demirel's government that was toppled by the military coup last September. He is an old hand at this game. The first time the military ousted him in 1971, people said he was finished as a politician. Yet he made a spectacular return and four years later he was Prime Minister again.

Of its organs. And I intend to take an active part in this process," he said in this process.

Mr Bulent Ecevit, from his small, new office near the top of Cankaya Hill, enjoys a sweeping view of Ankara when the winter smog disperses.

"One does not have to be a politician to contribute to the evolution of democracy in this country," he said. "I can do just as much by being a journalist and a writer."

And this is precisely what this former Prime Minister, aged 56, is doing now that his political career was abruptly interrupted by the military takeover.

I found him pounding out on his typewriter articles for his new weekly review to be named *Arapish* (Search).

"In these times of rapid change some of our institutions have lagged behind, while Turkey but in the whole world. We have to grasp the new dimensions of our problems and search for viable solutions," he said in flawless English.

Arapish would not be a militant publication," he said. "What Turkey needs today is peace. We shall deal in an outspoken manner with the main issues facing Turkey."

The urge to write exists also in Mr Demirel, who now holds court at home for his friends most of the day. He sits in a red leather armchair barricaded on three sides by piles of books, newspapers and dossiers as well as bric-a-brac which includes replicas of a white horse, his party's emblem.

"We are trying to pull ourselves together," he said in English, "fingerin' in the English." He is preparing to write some books to explain what he has put on the chest of Turkey, what we have done for the country."

He can pride himself that the new regime has simply exposed the old economic stabilization plan and his pro-Western, Philo-Islamic foreign policy.

Doctors want the corpulent Mr Demirel, who is 57, to walk for at least an hour a day but the rigorous Ankara winter is keeping him in until the spring. For the time being he prefers to receive his friends in his detached house which is guarded by a cluster of policemen building in the warmth of a cubicle outside. But on Fridays he goes to the neighbourhood mosque for prayers.

Mr Demirel receives a pension as a former Director-General of the state hydraulic works but with inflation running at around 100 per cent he has to fall back on his private fortune made during his years as a private contractor.

Mr Ecevit receives no pension but has a small annuity (about £50 a month) as a retired journalist, forcing him to draw on the family's savings.

He says he hopes that his new magazine, which will have "technical" support from one of the leading Turkish dailies, will pay for itself from the first issue. "We will try to make it very readable," he said.

Army's role, page 12

OVERSEAS

Israel's hardline foreign minister to defend West Bank settlement drive in Washington discussions

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Feb 15

Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, Israel's hardline Foreign Minister, plans to defend the Government's expansionist settlement policy in the occupied West Bank when he flies to Washington this week for his first official discussions with senior members of the new Reagan Administration.

Diplomatic observers believe that Israel's accelerated occupation of West Bank land in the run-up to the June general election could lead to a serious difference of views between Mr. Shamir and the new Reagan Administration.

The Israeli Foreign Minister is noted as one of the Cabinet's most outspoken supporters of the controversial programme to increase the Jewish presence on land seized from the Arabs in 1967.

Last week the American State Department issued a sharp condemnation of Israel's settlement drive, which was dismissed as "unhelpful" and "ill-advised".

The criticism followed foreign press reports that the military Government had confiscated more than 5,500 acres of West Bank land since the beginning of the year.

In a speech in Tel Aviv, Mr. Shamir reacted angrily to the American criticism, which appeared to have taken him and other senior ministers by surprise. They had been hoping that the Reagan Administration would considerably soften the harsh line adopted towards Israel's settlement policy under President Carter.

"During my visit to Washington, I will explain to the Reagan Administration the importance of Israel holding on to all of Eretz Israel (the biblical land of Israel)," Mr. Shamir said last week. "This principle is based on the fact that only a strong Israel will be capable of defending itself under all conditions."

"I will also explain that while it may be possible to argue about the timetable for settlement construction, the need for an Israeli presence in Judea and Samaria (the Government's official term for the West Bank) cannot be argued."

The Foreign Minister added: "Peace would never have been established had it been conditional on our absolute and complete relinquishment of a Jewish or Israeli presence in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. This is something both

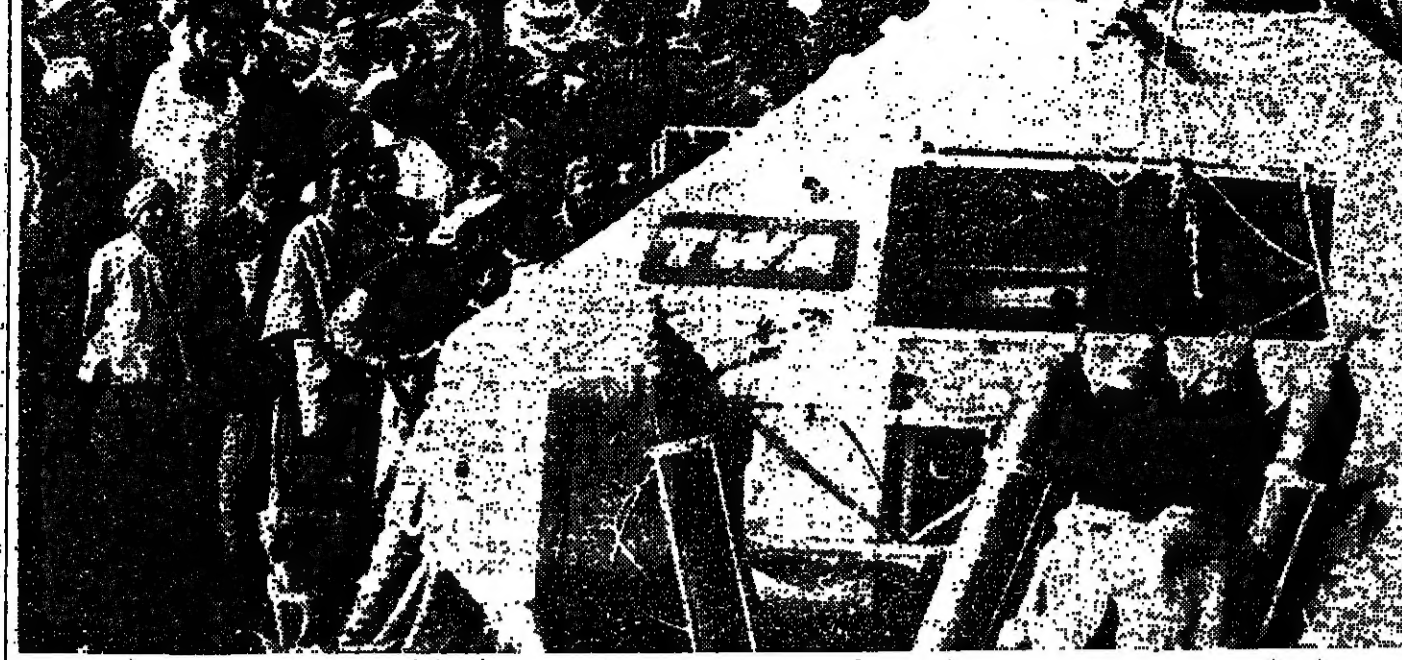
Egypt and the United States should realize."

It is understood that senior Israeli ministers, including Mr. Shamir, had set high store by a recent remark of Mr. Reagan describing the Jewish settlements as "not illegal".

But the remark prompted diplomatic protests from several Arab countries and last week the State Department made public the continuing opposition to the West Bank settlements which had earlier been channelled privately to Israel through diplomatic sources.

Commenting on the increased pace of the Israeli settlement programme, one unnamed American official was quoted by the Washington Post as saying: "We are angry and they know it. They are acting stupidly."

At today's Cabinet meeting, Mr. Shamir gave a detailed review of the state of Israeli-American relations before his Washington visit. As well as indicating the uncompromising attitude he would adopt on the settlements issues, the minister also pledged to put over Israel's firm opposition to any European initiative on the Middle East.



Journey abandoned: Indian villagers surround the gondola of the balloon Jules Verne in which Americans were attempting to make the first non-stop round-the-world balloon voyage after it had made a forced landing. The Americans said later they had been forced to abandon their journey.

Mr. Anderson took off from Luxor, in Egypt, on Thursday.

Mr. Anderson said the balloon could have gained altitude by dropping ballast but then it would have had to exhaust all the ballast. —Reuter.

Mr. Anderson said the balloon could have gained altitude by dropping ballast but then it would have had to exhaust all the ballast. —Reuter.

Army alert against two threats to Nigeria

From Karan Thapar, Lagos, Feb 15

The Nigerian armed forces and security agencies have been put on a nationwide alert, according to press reports. The reason is twofold, according to diplomats: Growing tension along the Chad border and internal unrest.

The Libyan presence in Chad is seen as threatening and Nigeria has been building up its forces in the border area of north-eastern Borno for several months.

Military observers believe that one of the four army divisions, T55 and Scorpion tanks, and almost a squadron of MIG 21 fighters are now in Borno. Meanwhile, the internal tension in Nigeria was reflected by Abacha Abubakar Rimi, Governor of the northern Kano state, at a press conference here yesterday. He said he believed that there could be another coup any day.

"Anything can happen in this country at any time," he said. "That is my considered opinion as a governor and as a general secretary of a political party (the People's Redemption Party)."

"What happened in the first (democratic) era, from independence to the period of the first coup was a period of political instability, in particular those of the Northern People's Congress (then the ruling party), violated the constitution at every turn. The people who did this in the NPC are now in the National Party (NPN). President Shagari was an NPC minister and now he is a member of the NPN."

His comments came after the newspaper reports about the troops having been placed on alert.

Chile agrees to Pope's plan in border dispute

Santiago, Feb 15.—Chile has agreed to Vatican proposals for a settlement of its long-standing border dispute with Argentina, President Augusto Pinochet said last night.

He told journalists in the southern town of Punta Arenas last night that although the dispute was not entirely satisfactory to him, his Government had accepted them because of the spiritual quality and moral force of those who proposed them.

The Pope is mediating in the dispute over three tiny islands in the Beagle channel at the southernmost tip of South America, which almost led to war between Chile and Argentina two years ago. —Reuter.

Bribery case chief witness is assaulted

From Moshe, Brilliant, Tel Aviv, Feb 15

As the district court hearing the bribery case against Mr. Aharon Abuhazera, the Minister for Religious Affairs, heard the first prosecution witnesses in Jerusalem today, a religious extremist attacked the chief prosecution witness, Mr. Israel Gottlieb, the deputy mayor in his office.

Mr. Abuhazera and Mr. Moshe Jabbai, an adviser in his ministry are accused of receiving bribes from Rabbi Amram Corach and Mr. Shmuel Daskal in return for increased ministerial grants to religious educational institutions they represented. The four men went on trial together.

Mr. Gottlieb, who according to the indictment was the go-between, agreed to turn state's witness after a police agent secretly taped conversations. Nobody stopped the assailant from entering the deputy mayor's office this morning, Mr. Jabbai said. The young man, wearing the clothes of a religious extremist, sat on a bench outside the deputy mayor's office reading psalms.

Syria steps up attack on Jordan over Camp David

From Robert Fisk, Damascus, Feb 15

Syria has escalated its resentful but still passive attacks on Jordan by threatening to use force against King Hussein if he is tempted to join the Camp David peace process.

According to the government newspaper *Tishrin*, Syria "will not, at any cost, permit another Sadat to operate at his southern frontiers." It would take "all effective measures" against such a conspiracy, the newspaper said.

Despite reports to the contrary, the present dispute between Syria and Jordan has not yet reached the seriousness of last November's confrontation when two divisions each of the Jordanian and Syrian armies faced each other beside the Jordanian old frontier station of Dera.

Only one Syrian brigade remained near the Jordanian border and this is a unit which is, in any case, usually based in southern Syria. Soviet advisers in Damascus are said to be urging the Syrians to desist

from any military adventures in the area.

The authorities in Damascus, however, are incensed by the continuing Jordanian propaganda campaign against Syria. The Jordanian news agency Petra for instance, claims that no fewer than 200 people had been killed by the Syrian special force troops in Aleppo during a search and destroy operation against members of the dissident Muslim Brotherhood organisation.

But this report appears to be untrue and diplomats in Syria are giving some credibility to rumours of repression in Hama and other Syrian cities—say that the Aleppo story is a figment of the Jordanian imagination.

The Jordanian accusation that the Syrian Government was behind the kidnapping of the Jordanian chargé d'affaires in Beirut, Mr. Hisham Muhsen, has particularly angered the Syrian Government. *Tishrin* described the affair as a "false kidnapping" intended "to serve as a pretext for waging a campaign of lies against Syria."

Sao Paulo office block fire leaves 17 dead

From Ivor Davis, Sao Paulo, Feb 15

Sao Paulo, Feb 15.—At least 17 people were killed and more than 50 injured yesterday by a fire which swept through a 23-storey office block in the heart of Sao Paulo's business district, police said.

Firemen rescued terrified people trapped on higher floors by getting a wire across to a neighbouring building. Helicopters circled the burning tower, but were unable to land on the roof. Most of the victims were cleaners.

The fire began just before midday on one of the lower floors. Firemen fought the fire for several hours before bringing it under control.

In 1974, 187 people died in a similar office block fire in the city. Television viewers throughout the world saw 43 people leap to their deaths from the upper storeys.

Las Vegas fire: Police expect to arrest at least one more person in connection with a fire at the Las Vegas Hilton hotel which killed eight people, the chief investigator has said. —Reuter.

Homosexuals defiant in California

From Ivor Davis, San Francisco, Feb 15

In the bars along San Francisco's Castro Street, home of the city's burgeoning homosexual community, the conversation was light-hearted over the recent news from Britain that a gay group planned to tackle Mount Everest.

But the talk turned edgy when a visitor brought up the latest pronouncements of members of the Moral Majority on the question of the Bay City's traditionally tolerant attitude to its homosexual citizens.

The Moral Majority, an alliance of Christian fundamentalist groups across the nation, is no longer considered a fringe group of the extreme right wing. Their activities range from the movement to put prayer back into the schools, to a campaign against the Maryland bakery which was selling gingerbread men and women, complete with genitalia.

They proved their power last November when they turned out hundreds of thousands of fundamentalists to get Mr. Ronald Reagan elected President. Their latest salvo came in

northern California a few days ago when Mr. Dean Wycoff, spokesman for the Santa Clara County Moral Majority said in a television interview: "I agree with capital punishment and I believe homosexuality is one of those things that could be coupled with murder."

Along with a coalition of other groups, Mr. Wycoff gave warning that his members would launch a \$3m (£1,282,000) media campaign against homosexuality and called San Francisco "the Sodom and Gomorrah of the nation and the scum of this perverted movement."

It is estimated that 15 per cent of the population of San Francisco is homosexual (there are nearly three-quarters of a million people in the centre). That makes it one of the largest centres for homosexuals in the world.

A day later Mr. Wycoff modified his capital punishment statement. Without actually retracting, he said fellow members of his group had urged him to clarify that he was speaking only for himself.

His statement along with a growing climate of antagonism towards homosexuals that some "gay" people say they detect here, has produced concern and tension in the community. On Castro Street homosexuals are in defiant mood.

But Mr. Robert McQueen, editor of the *Advocate*, the fortnightly national newspaper which bills itself as "America's leading gay magazine" (circulation 70,000) did not shrug off what he called Mr. Wycoff's "violent rhetoric."

"It scares us to death as it should coming from a purported Christian movement. The Rev. Richard Zone added fuel to the controversy. He heads a San José, California, fundamentalist movement called 'In God We Trust'."

He said the Moral Majority drive is concentrating on San Francisco first because "if we can do it in San Francisco we can do it anywhere."

The *Los Angeles Times* contributed to the debate with a cartoon by their Pulitzer prize-winning cartoonist Conrad last week, showing a cross gradually tilting over until it changed into a swastika, with the caption: "Today San Francisco's homosexuals... tomorrow..."

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OVERSEAS

Australians withdraw recognition from Khmer Rouge regime

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, Feb 15

The Australian Government has withdrawn its recognition of the ousted Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea, Mr Michael MacKellar, the acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, announced yesterday.

He said the Government had delayed its announcement in order not to cut across the diplomatic efforts by the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) for a political settlement. The Asean ministers had been attending a non-aligned meeting in Delhi which ended on Friday. It is believed the Cabinet decided to withdraw recognition two weeks ago.

The announcement made it clear that Australia's action was not intended to endorse the Vietnam-backed regime of Mr Heng Samrin. Public pressure to withdraw recognition from the Pol Pot regime has grown steadily during the past year as details of its mass murders of Kampuchean have trickled out of the country.

But although the Australian Government publicly declared its abhorrence of the ousted regime it came under strong pressure from Asean nations to recognize it until an acceptable government was installed.

Another critical reason for Australia's reluctance to abandon the Pol Pot regime formally has been fear that the move would be seen as recognition of the Heng Samrin Government.

Mr MacKellar's statement, in part, said: "This means Australia now does not recognize any regime in Kampuchea."

Australia has no intention of recognizing the Heng Samrin regime, condemns Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea and calls for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from that country.

"We are committed to a comprehensive political settlement in Kampuchea and fully support the provisions of the Asean-sponsored United Nations General Assembly resolutions on Kampuchea."

"Australia regarded the policies of Pol Pot and other leaders of his regime as abhorrent and hopes that its action now in de-recognition of the regime will contribute to a government truly representative of the Khmer people."

Last straw: Australia's formal repudiation of the Khmer Rouge regime together with other hostility towards the regime's leaders could be the last straw for most of them. West, a diplomat in Bangkok said today (Neil Kelly writes from Bangkok).

They did not regard the intention of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the former head of state, to talk about a united front with Mr Khieu Samphan, Prime Minister of the Khmer Rouge regime as acceptance of the existing leadership of the Khmer Rouge.

Prince Sihanouk had made the exclusion of non-communists from Khmer Rouge control a condition of his acceptance of the front's leadership.

The same Western diplomats say that the latest repudiation of the Khmer Rouge regime may in fact produce essential changes without which a Kampuchean united front against Vietnam will not be viable.

No Peking comment: Chinese newspapers today reported without comment Australia's decision to stop recognizing the Khmer Rouge regime. In Manila the Philippines and Indonesian foreign ministers today agreed that Prince Sihanouk would be acceptable to them and probably to the other members of Asean as political leader of Kampuchea. —Agence France-Presse.

Russia deaf to call on Afghanistan

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 15

The Soviet press today passed over in telling silence the call by the non-aligned countries for a withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan and instead heralded the meeting in Delhi as a triumph for Soviet policies.

Pravda said the movement had again reassessed its anti-imperialist line, and pointed to the meeting as a sign of progress for international tension. At the same time, the paper noted, the conference had strongly supported Soviet proposals for a peace settlement in the Middle East, for stability in South-East Asia and for getting rid of foreign military bases in the Indian Ocean.

Pravda did not refer to the defeat of the attempt by pro-Soviet nations to single out the American base on Diego Garcia, nor did it mention the call for a withdrawal of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea or the last-minute squabble over the refusal to refer to Afghanistan as "the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan".

All these decisions represent setbacks for Soviet attempts to convince the non-aligned movement that the Soviet Union and other communist countries are the movement's natural allies.

The Russians last week scorned suggestions that the non-aligned should steer a middle course between East and West and so they cannot have been pleased by the clear rejection of attempts to identify the movement more closely with the Soviet block.

Pravda today renewed Soviet accusations that the Americans were doing all they could to split the non-aligned movement. Victory claim: The Peking People's Daily today hailed the non-aligned foreign ministers' conference as a "significant victory" in defending the movement's principles, and exposing Vietnam and Cuba as the Trojan Horse of the Soviet Union. —Agence France-Presse.

Pakistan invites UN to supervise Afghan border

From Kuldip Nayyar
Delhi, Feb 15

Pakistan is willing to accept United Nations observers or a contingent from the Islamic or non-aligned countries to supervise the border with Afghanistan in order to remove doubts about "outside interference".

Mr Akbar Shah, the Foreign Minister, said: "Before leaving here, he said: 'We cannot stop the crossing of the border by armed tribesmen—they have been doing so since the time of antiquity. They do not require permission to go into Afghanistan and come back or vice versa.'"

Mr Shahi also said that when President Zia and President Taraki of Afghanistan met in Havana in August, 1979, Mr Taraki complained about interference from Pakistan. President Zia pointed out that since the Soviet Union, with 80,000 troops, could close the border, how could Pakistan seal it?

Mr Shahi said Pakistan had told the Soviet Ambassador in Islamabad that he was free to investigate whether Pakistan was training or helping the guerrillas and even offered him a helicopter.

Mr Shahi ruled out the possibility of Pakistan holding talks with Afghanistan. "We would not be willing to meet purely on a bilateral basis with the representative of the

Prisoners of conscience



E Germany: Gunter Beyer

By Caroline Moorehead

Gunter Beyer, a builder, was 24 when he was sentenced to three years and three months imprisonment for treasonable passing on of information. Human rights organisations believe, however, that his sentence is due to his attempts to obtain official permission to emigrate.

He was arrested on December 29, 1979. Observers believe that the charge against him was the intrusion of information was made to relate to the letters he wrote to organisations abroad about his emigration.

Journalist freed: Mr Iran Huyen, aged 63, better known as a journalist under the name of Kao Gao—whose case appeared in this column on November 26, 1979—has been released.

A familiar figure around Saigon before the fall of the South Vietnamese regime, he had spent nearly three years in a "reeducation camp".

The signals coming out of Washington as to what the Reagan Administration is likely to do about the Middle East are confused but not wholly discouraging. True, many of the advisers and assistants with whom President Reagan has surrounded himself are grossly partisan and Dr Kissinger's ill-advised Middle East journey and unhelpful attempt to sabotage European peace efforts and reassert an American monopoly of the peace making process has not been discovered.

The appointment of General Haig means that America now has a Secretary of State who is familiar with the European scene, and changes in the Senate have brought into influential position men who have been much more courageous and even-handed than is usual with members of that august body when dealing with matters affecting Israel.

But there are three areas of danger which will have to be watched with the greatest vigilance by Europeans as well as by Americans. The first is that the new Administration may try to rely on "the military option" as the best way of supporting friendly regimes in the Middle East. This failed to sustain the Shah; it would be equally unsuccessful elsewhere in the area. The only effective way for the United States to support its friends is by intelligent political action, and where the Middle East is concerned that means a sensible, pragmatic and above all impartial attitude towards the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Second, there is the "Kissinger fallacy"—the idea that peace can be brought to the Middle East by dodging the main issues and concentrating instead on the more manageable ones—the so-called step by step approach.

The years since Dr Kissinger's muffed his unique opportunity of reaching a conclusive settlement in the immediate aftermath of the October 73 War have amply demonstrated the shortcomings of this approach. All it has done is to give Israel time to consolidate its holdings on the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights and to undermine the essential compromise on which any negotiated peace must be based—Israel's withdrawal from occupied territory in exchange for Arab recognition of Israel's right to live in security.

Years ago Christopher Sykes, a sympathizer with Israel and the Zionist movement, wrote that it had become "a Zionist

There is growing evidence that the love of uniforms and a common appearance which binds together the skinheads and

loutish youths who cause violence on soccer terraces and in the streets is being wilfully

exploited by the extreme right in British politics. Peter Evans sifts the proof and reports on a disturbing trend.

When being a skinhead becomes part of life

The extreme right-wing British Movement has already gained recruits from skinheads and football supporters. But even before it got hold of them and they began giving Nazi salutes and chanting racist slogans, some fans were displaying characteristics that may help to explain not only the phenomenon of soccer hooliganism but the roots of inter-group conflict among the young.

Writing in *The Glory Game* (Weidenfeld and Nicolson), published in 1972, Hunter Davies quotes some fans of Tottenham Hotspur: "It's more exciting if you hit someone, especially some Northern bastard. I have all Northern bastards. You've got to show them the Cockney are best."

At the Coventry ground, the Tottenham fans sang Power to the Park Lane to the tune of the Power to the People. At the chant of we hate Arsenal, they pushed one fist in the air in front of them, in salute. There was a skirmish for extra territory. Davies said they "were all in rotten jobs, from rotten homes... There was no other excitement or meaning in their lives."

Eight years later, on December 2, 1980, Tottenham Hotspur played West Ham. Bryan Gould, a reporter for *Radio Times*, said: "The game was marked by war on the terraces. The report referred to youths wearing British Movement insignia, shouting anti-Jewish and anti-black taunts. There were 61 arrests. The week before, the British Movement held its first national march, the report said."

The step into politics is only a small one, but the characteristics displayed by the fans are not unique. They bear marked similarities to those of movements in different parts of the world with nationalist or tribal overtones. In the case of the football fans, the link between them is obvious: it is their team, which enables them to focus their loyalty on to a flag and blood heroes of an otherwise de-personalised world, waving banners, flags and singing anthems.

Given the world-wide revival of nationalist feeling, often leading to inter-group violence and, in extreme cases, terrorism, it is not surprising that the United Kingdom has not escaped.

Sometimes the links between members of groups are geographical (to do with territory), sometimes linguistic, often religious or racial. Therein lies the appeal of Mr Enoch Powell, as a champion of nationalism and tribalism, of which the Northern Ireland Protestant militant is an example.

In 1970 skinheads (not at his best) formed a guard of honour for Mr Powell when he spoke at Smergholme, which became notorious in the 1960s as a place where racism entered major party politics. London dockers and meat porters marched in support of his views. They are very tribal. Their jobs were handed down within families, and they felt their communities would be threatened by opening them to newcomers.

The dockers felt they also faced an economic threat from the intrusion of the new generation and old communities were scattered by redevelopment. They were astonishingly

close knit, which gave them their endurance against Hitler's bombs. One of the leaders of the revolt on the Isle of Dogs, one of the last cockney villages, which made a unilateral declaration of independence against bureaucratic neglect of the community, told me that several hundred of his family had lived in adjoining streets. With their street parties, jargon, and family celebrations, ritual was important to them. But now they are scattered to distant townships and new estates.

In their own community they mattered. They were "recognized in the way they wanted to be recognized." That phrase in fact comes not from a cockney but from a skinhead, a 14-year-old grammar school girl, who wrote in an essay published in the county education committee's schools bulletin: "When I had long hair I was moving, and I count myself as being just another outcast of society. Being a skinhead means really something to me... It has become part of my life."

"I would even say it is my life. I look forward to the next aggro or even the next time we will be out together and have a great time. If you are within their group, and have been accepted as one of them, they are great to you. Belong to them, and they will recognize you in the way you want to be recognized."

This yearning for identity, to belong to something, provides easy pickings for the British Movement. In the early 1970s a group of skinheads from Wolverhampton descended on the Aberystwyth office of Plaid Cymru, the Welsh Nationalist Party. They came because they thought the Welsh were lucky having something to fight for.

In Scotland, the Tartan Boys, a Protestant Group, support Glasgow Rangers, and are said by their opposite numbers, the Roman Catholic youth, to belong to "the other tribe." That sense of tribalism also came out in Liverpool in 1972, when skinheads and young blacks battled. One group of skinheads called themselves John Bulls.

Today, the appeal of right-wing extremist groups to unemployed white youth is that it provides an easy answer for the plight they find themselves in and a convenient scapegoat for the blacks, Asians and Jews. One thing common to all such movements appears to be, its sense of nostalgia for the past, the potency of symbols of roots, and a consciousness of stability at a time of swift change.

The general rule seems to be that the more the identity of a group seems threatened, whether by destruction of language, removal of territory, economic deprivation, or racial and religious prejudice, the more it asserts its identity, like a battle standard, by waving flags and shouting slogans. Emotion takes over reason. Prejudice awakens prejudice in return. On football grounds, fans assert their identity by waving scarves, chanting, singing team songs. The Phoenix, the British Movement's slogan, contains an advertisement for Songs and Marches of Britain.

It includes songs in Welsh. The arson of English second homes in Wales is a crime deserving punishment, but the extreme nationalism expressed by it and by sabotage in aid of the Welsh language is a classic symptom.

The economic tendency to centralization and concentration has closed railway lines, schools, post offices and other rural community assets. While parts of Wales suffered economic decline, the people who lived there were busy protesting about plans to flood territory to provide water for the distant English. Water is an economic asset: you use more of it as your standard of living goes up on washing machines, for watering lawns and cleaning cars and having baths. The distant English came flooding into Wales to buy second homes, thus driving the price up beyond the means of local people, and accelerating the drift away, eroding the language.

In *Identity, Youth and Crisis* (Faber and Faber, 1971), Erik Erikson, Professor of Human Development and Lecturer in Psychology at Harvard University, says: "Where historical and technological development, however severely, encroaches upon deeply rooted or strongly emerging identities (ie, agrarian, feudal, patriarchal), on a large scale, youth feels endangered; individually and collectively, whereupon it becomes ready to support doctrines offering a total immersion in a synthetic identity (extreme nationalism, racism or class consciousness) and collective condemnation of a totally stereotyped enemy of the new identity."

He might have added "religious" to the list of identities that appeal, but, as far as it goes, the statement appears to have been borne out by events since, particularly if another of his findings is added: "Where a group's socio-economic status is in danger, the implicit moral code becomes more restricted, more magic, more exclusive, and more intolerant, as though an outer danger had to be treated as an inner one."

Erikson is talking mainly about youth, although there is evidence to suggest that the explanation has more general application, even if it is true that youth very often sets the pace in protest. The more extreme nationalisms fit Erikson's thesis. The pace of change, accelerated by technological development, economic reasons, may well make tribal identities become more exclusive and sometimes to become more intolerant.

In the case of the Nazis, a movement born at a time of rapid development, the Jewish crisis of the 1920s and 1930s was the "stereotyped enemy". And as Dr Jacob Gewirtz, director of the defence department of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said on TV Eye: "The Nazis in the 1920s and 1930s built up their power structure precisely with this kind of displaced youth which had no place to go, which was disgruntled, angry and they gave them a very powerful means of expression." Thus Dr Gewirtz said then he could not see the same sort of movement catching on in



Photograph by Homer Sykes

Britain, the sudden upsurge of Muslim revivalism in Iran bears all the characteristics Professor Erikson mentioned. Certainly, the technological growth espoused by the Shah encroached upon the identities of traditional Muslims; certainly their implicit moral code has become more restricted, more magic, more exclusive, and more intolerant, as though an outer danger had to be treated as an inner one."

The same point is illustrated by the Provisional IRA who, following an almost Puritanical moral code in the "no-go areas, deal with alleged wrongdoers by shaving their heads and other punishments. Nationalistic protests often invoke as inspiration dead heroes. That is why the martyrdom of hunger-strikers is such a threat to stability. It was Padraig Pearse who said that patriotism "is in large part a memory of heroic dead men and a striving to accomplish some task left unfinished by them." Today, the Rev Ian Paisley evokes the spirit of Carson.

Cwain Glyndwr is a potent hero in Wales. In Venezuela the National Liberation Armed Forces (FALN) talked in a manifesto about "fulfilling the nationalistic thoughts of Simon Bolivar" and of defending the national heritage. In 1967, the Tupamaros issued a manifesto saying that they were

not prepared to stand by while the patrimony of Artigas was sold to foreigners. (General José Artigas was one of the heroes of Uruguay's war of independence). The Tupamaros took their name from Tupac Amaru, the celebrated Peruvian Indian leader, who was burnt at the stake by Spaniards in 1782 for organizing a revolt against colonial rule.

For the football fans of Manchester United, the heroes who died in, or survived, the Munich air crash, are potent symbols. The gang Hunter Davies talked to at Tottenham had pictures of John White, a member of the famous 1961 team ringed in black on their bedroom walls, in perpetual mourning for his death.

Though there are black heroes, whose unfinished task has been left for others to complete, there remains a search for identity, which black consciousness, or black nationalism, expresses. Instead of aping white culture, black people have looked deep into their roots, calling themselves Afro-Americans, adopting "Afro" hair-styles, encouraging the study of black history, as an alternative to the white version in orthodox text books, and the Christians among them worshipping a black Christ and sanctifying a black Madonna.

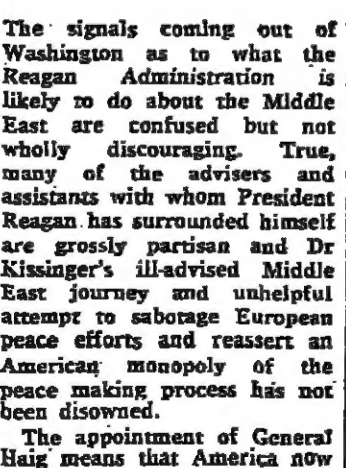
Alex Haley evoked this yearning for an eloquent past by the search for his own roots. A hotel for homeless blacks in West London was called Dashi, the Swahili word for shelter.

Mrs Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston, on February 9 called on Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, not to allow his inquiry into racist organizations to be racist, but to look into the increasing numbers of indigenous white people being harassed on a racial basis and the English people "whose homes are deliberately burned to a cinder by members of a lunatic fringe in Wales. Nothing could be more racist than these attacks," she said. "All of us deplore attacks, surely, on any person—whether he or she be black, brown, yellow or white."

Those who believe that it is necessary only to blame individuals and punish them for their actions will look no further than Mrs Knight wants. But it might also help to reduce tension in the United Kingdom if the examination were extended to the force that give rise to it—the unemployment and deprivation that makes for bitterness, hopelessness and the creation of new castes; and if action could be taken to reduce them.

View from Westminster

Will Mr Reagan fall into the Middle East trap?



The Carter Administration stood rightly with the aim of reaching a comprehensive peace but then allowed itself to be sidetracked by Mr Begin into the futility of endless, time-wasting negotiations about the so-called Palestinian autonomy. With the new Reagan Administration fall into the same error of fiddling to Israel's time while vital Western interests burn in the Middle East?

The third danger is that we in Europe, and even more, our friends in America will fall into the trap of assuming that once Mr Begin and the Likud have been defeated in the July elections the whole scene in the Middle East will be so transformed that the search for peace can make a fresh and more hopeful start. Almost certainly this is a dangerous illusion since it ignores both the past record and the stated intentions of the Labour Party, which is expected to form the next Israeli government.

The trouble is that the West is still very glibly where Israel is concerned, still prone to accept at their face value Israeli protestations of peace which are belied by Israeli actions on the ground. Of course many Israelis are genuinely concerned with security but they present impossible conditions for achieving it. As Dr Kissinger once remarked: "The desire of the Jewish people for absolute security means absolute insecurity for all the others."

Years ago Christopher Sykes, a sympathizer with Israel and the Zionist movement, wrote that it had become "a Zionist

habit to speak not only in two but in several voices". It still is. In broad terms three voices are there. One is humanity—the voice of Martin Buber and Judah Magnes, a voice all too little heard in the Israel of today. One is of brutality and arrogance—the voice of the Likud party and the Gush Emunim. And one is of "moderation", but all too often an equivocal moderation—the voice of the Labour Party whether under Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin or Shimon Peres. Unless, on achieving power, he makes an unexpected volte face.

It is often forgotten that it was while the Labour Party was in power that the pattern of Israeli policy in the occupied territories was set. The difference between earlier Israeli governments and Mr Begin's is one of degree, not of principle.

The portents for a new Labour Government are not reassuring. At its congress in December the party produced a political manifesto which has been greeted with gloomy comment even in the Hebrew press. Writing in *Haaretz* of December 28, the political commentator Amnon Barzilai remarked: "The manifesto of the party largely constitutes a return to the one drawn up in February, 1977. Not only are the hawks and doves inside the Labour Party still divided, but the hawks have won the day." In other words the manifesto actually puts the clock back to before President Sadat's momentous visit to Jerusalem. On Israeli settlements in the occupied territories it says:

"The settlements in the Jordan Valley, including those north-west of the Dead Sea, in Gush Emunim, in the West Bank, and in the Golan Heights have been established on the basis of strategic defence considerations. Israel's Labour Government will consolidate and develop them."

And even more depressingly: "The Israeli Labour government will insist that in peace time the military areas and settlements which include the Jordan Valley with the area north-west of the Dead Sea, the area around Jerusalem and the southern Gaza Strip will be included in the territory to remain under Israeli sovereignty."

That means that Israel under a new Labour government will demand a "territorial compromise" which leaves about a third of the West Bank and Gaza in Israeli hands and under Israeli sovereignty. It means that the Palestinians will have to rest content with only perhaps 15 per cent of their original homeland. The Labour Party position is more extreme than it was before Mr Begin came to power.

Clearly there is no basis in this manifesto for any serious negotiations, let alone for any "just and lasting" peace. There can only be a lasting peace if Palestinian rights are recognised and if negotiations are conducted with the only effective representative body of the Palestinian people, the PLO and King Hussein has clearly recognized this fact. So,

it seemed, had European governments, though the Palestinians may be excused for feeling that Europeans are astonishingly timid in following up the first steps and do not appear to realize fully the disastrous effect inside the PLO which a continued failure to translate words into action is likely to have.

Although his interview with *The Times* Yasser Arafat made it clear that he was willing to give the Reagan Administration a chance to start talking instead of electing. And now President Sadat has also extended a welcome to greater European involvement.

It may be that the only realistic conclusion any objective observer can reach is that there is ever to be a settlement it will have to be a position on them in one way or another.

It may even be that, given the climate of opinion which persistent Zionist indoctrination has created in Israel the West is being not merely naive and unrealistic but even in a sense unreasonable in demanding genuine moderation from them. An enforced peace may be the only way of escaping Israel from unending war and of enabling its people to escape from the captivity of their past. In their heart many Israelis might even welcome having peace forced upon them.

Dennis Walter

The author is Conservative for Westbury.

Cricket

[illegible]

Wellington, Feb. 15.—New Zealand have recalled John Reid and Graham Edwards in a squad of 12 players to replace the injured batsmen against India starting here on Saturday. Reid, current top scorer in domestic cricket, was discarded because of a knee injury sustained in the 1978-79 series. Edwards, with five Test caps, has been out of the team since he was recalled in 1978 when he kept wicket for two Tests.

John Bracewell, an off-spinner, will play in this weekend's one-day matches against India, but retains the Test place he gained during the recent tour of Australia. Bracewell, a left-arm bowler, is also chosen to return early from Australia.

The 12 are: G. Howarth (captain), J. Bracewell, L. Cairns, J. Smith, B. Edgar, G. Edwards, R. McKenzie, J. Edgar, J. Wright, J. Wessenden, G. Truop, J. Wright.

India have asked for a replacement for Dilip Doshi, their injured left-arm spinner. Doshi has a foot injury and will be out of the team of action for three weeks. He will be replaced by a 19-year-old slow, left-arm bowler, Ravish Shrivastava.

Shivaji Yadav, an off-spinner, is also prevented by injury from playing at the moment. He had a strain in the foot, broken by a ball from the Australian fast bowler, Les Pascoe, during India's tour of Australia.

New Zealand confirmed their recent five form in limited-over cricket when they swept to their second victory in the series over India in Hamilton today. The New Zealanders, who won by 77 runs, took 10 wickets for 45 and 57 runs to spare. They scored 210 for night in 50 overs and dismissed India for 153.

New Zealand's first triumph was an extension of their relative one-day

Sydney Friskin
 Lancashire 1
 Middlesex, with most of their
 full confidence restored, defeated
 Lancashire convincingly at East-
 ondale yesterday to reach the semi-
 final round of the county bowl
 trophy, sponsored by Henry
 Rogers, the new owner of Worcester-
 shire, while Buckinghamshire will
 play Norfolk, and the intention is
 to play both matches at one place
 on March 21, with the final on
 March 22.
 The simplest analysis of yester-
 day's match is that Middlesex took
 their chances and Lancashire did
 not. The latter side looked tired in
 the last 20 minutes, which was
 not surprising in view of their
 defeat by Gloucestershire in the
 opening Cheshire 3-1 at Northern
 Club in a replay on Saturday,
 when they left Liverpool almost im-
 mediately after their appointment
 at Eastcote.
 Had Lancashire capitalized on
 the loss of two chances early in
 the match, they could have
 levelled the score at 2-2. But
 as Middlesex scored their third
 in the 20th minute, the result
 resulted. With some frost still lin-
 gering on the surface, Lancashire
 found the pitch a little difficult
 for their batsmen to traverse.
 Middlesex launched most of
 their attacks from the right,
 and took advantage of the speed
 and penetrating hit of a few
 batsmen to score, which he
 made in the 23rd minute, after
 he had been back of the goal-
 keeper's hand. Lancashire took
 only three runs to a draw level.
 The last 10 minutes of the
 match were a bit of a scramble.
 Middlesex were in the lead at
 the end of the match, but the

by Joyce Whitehead

Salfordshire 1. Snaresfordshire 3
Salfordshire are the English
champions. They beat
Hertfordshire in the final
at Cheltenham Park School, Cheltenham,
last Saturday. Jane Swinnerton, their
star forward, was the star of the show.
She scored five goals, three from the first
and second goals and each was a classic.
Victoria Campbell, the right
half, scored two. Her partner, Elizabeth
Duffell, also scored one. The referee, Miss
Post, then picked up the re-bound
to score the goal, with the
Salfordshire goalkeeper making no mistake.
The game was over only minutes.
Fifteen minutes Miss Swinnerton
equalized it and it was 1-1 at half-time.

After rather dreary play on
Saturday, the semi-final results
were: Salfordshire 1, Sheffield
0; and Hertfordshire 1,
H. Hertfordshire 1.
On penalty flicks after
extra time.

The final, played on a hardcourt
pitch, was fast and exciting. The
winners were led by Valerie Robinson,
captain of Hertfordshire. She made many

openings for her forwards but seldom
was a return pass sent.
Salfordshire played a constructive
game, with everyone giving 100
per cent. Each did his own job
and was glad to help others. They
gave a splendid team spirit.

Towards the end Hertfordshire
were awarded four or five corners
but they failed to score. Salfordshire
have been Midland county
champions four times in the
past six years but this was the first
time they have reached the national
championship final and
they well deserved their win.

Avon beat Sheffield League
1-0 with three goals. Their left
wing, Jeanette Seavill, who played
well. This gave them third place
in the championship.

STAFFORDSHIRE: A. Glossop, K. Gossop, J. Hargreaves, J. Lence, J. Lowe, E. Mather, C. Haddon, J. Champion.

HERTFORDSHIRE: S. Owen, J. C. Ward, R. A. Daly, C. Imber, D. Brown, C. Duffell, R. Robertson, A. Pemberton.

ROBBERIES: L. Simpson and J. Harris.

[illegible]

Australia during their recent tour of Australia where they qualified for the World Series Cup finals which will take place at Sydney next month.

The Indians played with greater determination and fielded better today, but the batting crumbled under New Zealand's attack.

They were 104 for two at one stage but their last eight wickets fell cheaply as New Zealand's five-pronged team took advantage of mistakes made by Gary Robertson playing first for 29 on his first international cricket test.

New Zealand wrapped up the stall and took three for 18.

Randall's batsmen had to struggle initially on a damp and green pitch and were reduced to 61 for four before the all-rounder came onto the scene.

Loney made the top score of 46, including two sixes, and the recovery was consolidated by Peter Bracken scoring 72 off 48 balls.

The Indians, who are making a

from Eric Masera, Johannesburg, Feb 15

Nicky Price, of the Royal Salisbury Golf Club in Zimbabwe, was rewarded for his consistency on the Sunshine circuit when he won the South African Masters tournament at the Millerton Links in Cape Town on Saturday with a seven-under-par total of 281. His opponent, a Zimbabwean bookmaker of another Zimbabwean, Mark McNulty, and the two were the only competitors under par.

John Fourie, of Potchefstroom, was six strokes behind on 291.

A feature of the tournament, which was played on two days by players from the Cape south-eastern, was the collection of 100 overnight tepees. Vincent Ishabashi, of Soweto, who had a 65 on the first day, finished with a 72 on the second to finish 127. Curtis Claassen, who took over from him, had

a 78 on Saturday to finish just fourth on 292; and the third-round leader, Robbie Stewart, blew a 74 on 284 for 294.

LEADING PRIZES

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning
72	67	70	70	73	75	76	76	76	76
McNulty	Fourie	Stewart	Price	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	Henning	W. D. Watson	

[illegible]

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

David Broome, with five Lancia motor cars and sturdy Volvos to this credit, added a sixth Lancia on Saturday at Northwood, thanks to the concerted efforts of his team, the American thoroughbred Queensway Philco, who is bred on Queensway racing, and who is owned by a German, known as Hermann the German.

The German horse won the Lancia-Lance by nearly half a second from Lancia's neighbor, with Queensway Philco a further half a second behind in third place, and Queensway Geoffrey Billington on Snowdonia.

Both of Broome's horses wear a red and white racing cap, and on to contest the Lancia Trophy, a further challenge a trophy which is awarded to the winner of the race. When Philco went into second place behind Fred Velech on Norbit, Broome was the owner and driver for the car and was the winner of the overall £25,000, accruing to the overall winner, so Big Q was not required to jump again.

Yesterday David and Elizabeth Broome and Ted and Elizabeth Edgar were on their way for the Sunshine Circuit in Florida, but the Lancia-Lance was not to be the Sunshine-Lovers' Leap competition on February 25 at the British Equestrian Centre in their other laws, Graham and Karen Fletcher, to ride against 13 others including horses owned by David and Mary Mould, Tony and Ann Newbery, Derek and Jill Rickards, Malcolm and Judy Phipps, and John and Anne Spence, and Paddy and Trisha McAlvan.

LANCE: 36.4-sec. Queensway Philco, 36.4-sec. Broome, 36.4-sec. A. Phipps, 36.4-sec. B. Phipps, 36.4-sec. C. Phipps, 36.4-sec. D. Phipps, 36.4-sec. E. Phipps, 36.4-sec. F. Phipps, 36.4-sec. G. Phipps, 36.4-sec. H. Phipps, 36.4-sec. I. Phipps, 36.4-sec. J. Phipps, 36.4-sec. K. Phipps, 36.4-sec. L. Phipps, 36.4-sec. M. Phipps, 36.4-sec. N. Phipps, 36.4-sec. O. Phipps, 36.4-sec. P. Phipps, 36.4-sec. Q. Phipps, 36.4-sec. R. Phipps, 36.4-sec. S. Phipps, 36.4-sec. T. Phipps, 36.4-sec. U. Phipps, 36.4-sec. V. Phipps, 36.4-sec. W. Phipps, 36.4-sec. X. Phipps, 36.4-sec. Y. Phipps, 36.4-sec. Z. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AA. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AB. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AC. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AD. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AE. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AF. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AG. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AH. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AI. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AJ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AK. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AL. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AM. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AN. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AO. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AP. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AQ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AR. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AS. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AT. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AU. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AW. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AX. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AY. Phipps, 36.4-sec. AZ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BA. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BB. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BC. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BD. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BE. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BF. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BG. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BH. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BI. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BJ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BK. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BL. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BM. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BN. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BO. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BP. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BQ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BR. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BS. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BT. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BU. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BW. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BX. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BY. Phipps, 36.4-sec. BZ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CA. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CB. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CC. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CD. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CE. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CF. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CG. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CH. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CI. Phipps, 36.4-sec. CJ. 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Phipps, 36.4-sec. EC. Phipps, 36.4-sec. ED. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EE. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EF. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EG. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EH. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EI. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EJ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EK. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EL. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EM. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EN. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EO. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EP. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EQ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. ER. Phipps, 36.4-sec. ES. Phipps, 36.4-sec. ET. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EU. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EW. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EX. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EY. Phipps, 36.4-sec. EZ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FA. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FB. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FC. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FD. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FE. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FF. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FG. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FH. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FI. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FJ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FK. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FL. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FM. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FN. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FO. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FP. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FQ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FR. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FS. Phipps, 36.4-sec. FT. 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Phipps, 36.4-sec. HL. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HM. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HN. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HO. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HP. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HQ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HR. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HS. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HT. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HU. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HW. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HX. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HY. Phipps, 36.4-sec. HZ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IA. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IB. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IC. Phipps, 36.4-sec. ID. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IE. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IF. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IG. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IH. Phipps, 36.4-sec. II. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IJ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IK. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IL. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IM. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IN. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IO. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IP. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IQ. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IR. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IS. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IT. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IU. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IV. Phipps, 36.4-sec. IW. P

By Keith Macklin

The only glams to bite the dust in yesterday's first round games in the Challenge Cup, sponsored by the Football Association, were Bradford Northern and Leeds who were both knocked out by other first division giants. Bradford were beaten by Burnley, respectively, but it was a pity day for the Davids. Fulham, having been awarded a prize of around 15,000 to Crawley Cottage, infuriated and puffed in various ways. Walsley, a team which who fought determinedly to ensure that they did not become official victims as Leeds had done, were also beaten.

The Trinity half backs, Agnelli and Toplis, were outstanding. The latter was the hero of the first half, putting Walsley ahead with a dropped goal. Keith Smith, the centre, was the star of the second half, scoring a try for Trinity, and the lead was stretched to nine points when he kicked a penalty. Roy Fletcher and Diamond kicked a penalty.

After the game, rotated on by the immensely enthusiastic following, Fulham made a late rally and ran scored under the posts. Manager, John Walsley, said that the game was too late, with Fulham's consolation the knowledge of having a large attendance record at Crawley Cottage.

out the challenge of Leeds. End who were beaten finalists in season, employed Leeds, particularly in the first half. Their triumph was from Norwich and with four goals from Lloyd Naylor got a late try for Leeds and he kicked a goal.

Salford were beaten by Bradford Northern at Tipton Willows. Salford are likely to be in the running for the Slalom Lager championship, but Salford played some excellent rugby to run up a 17-3 lead, with a try from the wing. Wales and British Lions winger scoring a superb individual try. Northern refused to give up and gave a rousing and noisy finish to an exciting game.

The amateurs, Pilkington Road, had an excellent account of themselves, beating the 1st division leaders, York, but poor finishing let them down. Amateurs the favourites for the trophy, were thrashed and division 2, Doncaster, for 50 points picked up £6,145 in sponsorship prize money, while Warrington and Castleford disposed of the trophy for £10,000. The draw for the second round takes place today.

[illegible][illegible]

3. Huddersfield 0, Barnsley 1
4. Hull City 0, Middlesbrough 0
5. Huddersfield 0, Derby 1
6. Luton 0, London University 0
7. Oldham 0, Doncaster 1
8. Millwall 0, Southend 0
9. Maidhead 0, Old King'sians 0
10. Alton 0, Blackheath 0
11. Slough 0, Havva 0
12. Spence 1, Bromley 5
13. Teddington 0, Chesham 2
14. Wimbledon 0, Don 0
15. Tulse Hill 0

FRIENDLY MATCH: Richmond 3, Surbiton 1

CHAMPIONSHIP: Preliminary round: Lancashire 3, Cheshire 1

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Oxford University 3, Royal Navy 0

WOMEN: County Championship: Gloucestershire 1, Hampshire 0
Staffordshire 1, Sheffield League 0

VAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Loughborough 5, Bangor 0.

From an Irish Racing Correspondent
Dublin, Feb. 16

Five racers were in as many doubts that the favourite, Darling Run, had beaten Ivan King in the Erin Woods' Champion Hurdle at the expense of the favourite, but the subsequent stewards' inquiry and the objection by Philip Blacker, the rider of the English favourite, resulted in the first and second left the final outcome in doubt for another 20 minutes.

The race had taken its final shape after jumping the second last flight, when Slaney Idol started to lose his prominent position. Darling Run tackled Pollardstown with Ivan King making headway along the rails. Pollardstown became the meat in the sandwich as Ivan King edged his way through and Darling Run, on the outside, held his ground.

There was just a moment after jumping the last flight when Ivan King threatened to beat Darling Run, but Ted Walsh kept his mount at full stretch and won by a neck. Another three lengths further, he came off Pollardstown, with Dunaree fourth.

It was almost inevitable that the stewards would initiate an inquiry into the contest, which was compounded when Philip Blacker lodged his objection. The bookmakers gave the objection little chance, offering 10-1 against Pollardstown, but the film patrol pictures revealed just how seriously he had been impeded by Ivan King.

They likewise showed that Darling Run had not transgressed the rules at all. The outcome was the relegation of Ivan King to last place and the promotion of Pollardstown to second.

The first two met at a meeting again next month in the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham. As Pollardstown will have a 5-1 shot to beat Ivan King to Saturday's encounter, he would appear to have every chance of turning the tables.

I thought that the bookmakers were being over-cautious. Ivan King will be a strong Irish fancy for a new event called the National Hunt Cup, which he will probably be opposed by Dunaree, who ran a sound race on Saturday.

In the Harold Clarke Leopards-town Steeplechase, the Duchess of Westminster's Lady Suspect put up an astonishing display of front-running. After making several mistakes, she was a third of a second ahead at the third last fence, but when the pursuing favourite, Corbie Chieftain, made a bad mistake at the second-last fence, she was well on her way to the Grand National winner, Last Link, summoned hidden reserves and finished surprisingly fresh to beat an Aintree Grand National candi-

date, Kyalogue Lady, by 15 lengths. Jim Draper will defer his bid for the title for some weeks.

Fourth place in the Leopards-town Steeplechase went to Royal Bond, who had been hampered by Corbie Chieftain. It was a sound effort on his part with a top weight of 12 st 10 lb. He will go for the Cheltenham Gold Cup where he will be ridden by Tommy McGeeney.

The Wad was most lucky winner of the Arkle Challenge Cup. He appeared to have little chance going to the last against a field of who landed several and unseated his partner, Gerry Newman. Tacrooy, with a clear run, will be a strong Irish challenger.

There was a lot of talk about Liam O'Donnell, who rode Royal Bond on Saturday has already been booked by Joan Moore to deputise for injured Tony Carberry on Tied Cottage in the Gold Cup. Tied Cottage and Eddie Lee Grady's Jack of Trumps, are unlikely to be top favourites. American-backed Steeplechase at Fairy-house next Sunday.

Mick 'Toole's Chieftain and Bill 'Toole's Dauntless will meet in the P.J. Mower Steeplechase at Thurles next Thursday. Daletta, the Irish Grand National winner, will come from the virus, will probably run at Newbury on March 7 before his attempt in the Gold Cup. Guy St John Williams' the trainer says,

By Michael Seeley

All the action took place in Ireland on Saturday. The only horse to have been concerned was the ground which obstinately remained frozen solid. Unless there is a dramatic change in the weather there will be no racing until the horses are walking their boxes in a few days' time.

As Charles Toller, the clerk of the course at Newbury, said gloomily: "Once the frost sets in at this time of the year you've no chance. Come March the sun is hotter and allows for long enough runs if it changes to thaw out." Both meetings scheduled for today, Nottingham and Plumpton, have been abandoned.

After such an open season no one is seriously worried as yet. Fred Winter summed up everyone's feelings when he said:

"I think I'm sorry to see the Newbury executive and the hazy crowds which missed such a marvellous day's sport. What a pity that the Prince of Wales riding and all those other good races, it is as though we'd lost the Derby."

Winter added that Midnight Court Couperé has been released Friday. "He's in right now and will go for the Fairlawne

Chase at Windsor on Wednesday. If that's off he could run either in the Jerry M Handicap at Lingfield or the Royal Ascot Stakes at Homes Steeplechase at Nottingham the same afternoon."

Unfortunately there is always a certain amount of fencing around the horses who may or may not want their Cheltenham hopes to be lost in mortal combat before the big day. This is a sad fact of life but it must happen. It is the job of those clerks of courses who stage the conditions races that the trainers are always clamouring for.

Last Thursday's Ely Steeplechase at Peterborough was a case in point. A hunter-chaser, Dancing Briz, beat his solitary opponent, Havanus, was a fiasco. This was because no one wanted to tickle Wayward Lad, the favourite, in the Duke of Devon's brilliant novice was unable to run, the ensuing match, exciting though it was, hardly served the purpose intended.

Midnight Court, Silver Buck and Border Incident are the three big names among the six declared for the Fairlawne. Border Incident is expected to be in the top spot. Richard Head sees no point in taking on Silver Buck at this stage. Silver Buck is a definite runner.

Midnight Court is also an contender. Frank Duggan will not be available for the win-

ner of the King George VI Steeplechase. So Dickinson will have to look elsewhere for a deputy for the injured Tommy Carmody.

Wayward Lad will now probably miss the Steeplechase soon after his recent setback and the horse will probably go straight to Haydock on March 7. Dickinson said, however, Boy will now be prepared to take on the Hurdle Final at Nottingham the same afternoon. However, this strong fancy for the abandoned youngster, God Trial, now faces a stiffer task. To beat capper had the evidence of Badsworth Boy's easy victory at Worcester in front of him when he framed the weights.

The summer schools of Goodwood and Sandown may see a silver in the iron grip of the frost. But it is still interesting to hear that the races on the Sussex course will carry an extra £10,000 per meeting next season. The biggest increase has gone to the group one Sussex Stakes which will now have £50,000 in added money.

STATE OF COING (refilled): Nottingham: abandoned; 1st, Prospect; 2nd, Breeze; 3rd, Breeze; 4th, Breeze; 5th, Breeze; 6th, Breeze; 7th, Breeze; 8th, Breeze; 9th, Breeze; 10th, Breeze; 11th, Breeze; 12th, Breeze; 13th, Breeze; 14th, Breeze; 15th, Breeze; 16th, Breeze; 17th, Breeze; 18th, Breeze; 19th, Breeze; 20th, Breeze; 21st, Breeze; 22nd, Breeze; 23rd, Breeze; 24th, Breeze; 25th, Breeze; 26th, Breeze; 27th, Breeze; 28th, Breeze; 29th, Breeze; 30th, Breeze; 31st, Breeze; 32nd, Breeze; 33rd, Breeze; 34th, Breeze; 35th, Breeze; 36th, Breeze; 37th, Breeze; 38th, Breeze; 39th, Breeze; 40th, Breeze; 41st, Breeze; 42nd, Breeze; 43rd, Breeze; 44th, Breeze; 45th, Breeze; 46th, Breeze; 47th, Breeze; 48th, Breeze; 49th, Breeze; 50th, Breeze; 51st, Breeze; 52nd, Breeze; 53rd, Breeze; 54th, Breeze; 55th, Breeze; 56th, Breeze; 57th, Breeze; 58th, Breeze; 59th, Breeze; 60th, Breeze; 61st, Breeze; 62nd, Breeze; 63rd, Breeze; 64th, Breeze; 65th, Breeze; 66th, Breeze; 67th, Breeze; 68th, Breeze; 69th, Breeze; 70th, Breeze; 71st, Breeze; 72nd, Breeze; 73rd, Breeze; 74th, Breeze; 75th, Breeze; 76th, Breeze; 77th, Breeze; 78th, Breeze; 79th, Breeze; 80th, Breeze; 81st, Breeze; 82nd, Breeze; 83rd, Breeze; 84th, Breeze; 85th, Breeze; 86th, Breeze; 87th, Breeze; 88th, Breeze; 89th, Breeze; 90th, Breeze; 91st, Breeze; 92nd, Breeze; 93rd, Breeze; 94th, Breeze; 95th, Breeze; 96th, Breeze; 97th, Breeze; 98th, Breeze; 99th, Breeze; 100th, Breeze; 101st, Breeze; 102nd, Breeze; 103rd, Breeze; 104th, Breeze; 105th, Breeze; 106th, Breeze; 107th, Breeze; 108th, Breeze; 109th, Breeze; 110th, Breeze; 111th, Breeze; 112th, Breeze; 113th, Breeze; 114th, Breeze; 115th, Breeze; 116th, Breeze; 117th, Breeze; 118th, Breeze; 119th, Breeze; 120th, Breeze; 121st, Breeze; 122nd, Breeze; 123rd, Breeze; 124th, Breeze; 125th, Breeze; 126th, Breeze; 127th, Breeze; 128th, Breeze; 129th, Breeze; 130th, Breeze; 131st, Breeze; 132nd, Breeze; 133rd, Breeze; 134th, Breeze; 135th, Breeze; 136th, Breeze; 137th, Breeze; 138th, Breeze; 139th, Breeze; 140th, Breeze; 141st, Breeze; 142nd, Breeze; 143rd, Breeze; 144th, Breeze; 145th, Breeze; 146th, Breeze; 147th, Breeze; 148th, Breeze; 149th, Breeze; 150th, Breeze; 151st, Breeze; 152nd, Breeze; 153rd, Breeze; 154th, Breeze; 155th, Breeze; 156th, Breeze; 157th, Breeze; 158th, Breeze; 159th, Breeze; 160th, Breeze; 161st, Breeze; 162nd, Breeze; 163rd, Breeze; 164th, Breeze; 165th, Breeze; 166th, Breeze; 167th, Breeze; 168th, Breeze; 169th, Breeze; 170th, Breeze; 171st, Breeze; 172nd, Breeze; 173rd, Breeze; 174th, Breeze; 175th, Breeze; 176th, Breeze; 177th, Breeze; 178th, Breeze; 179th, Breeze; 180th, Breeze; 181st, Breeze; 182nd, Breeze; 183rd, Breeze; 184th, Breeze; 185th, Breeze; 186th, Breeze; 187th, Breeze; 188th, Breeze; 189th, Breeze; 190th, Breeze; 191st, Breeze; 192nd, Breeze; 193rd, Breeze; 194th, Breeze; 195th, Breeze; 196th, Breeze; 197th, Breeze; 198th, Breeze; 199th, Breeze; 200th, Breeze; 201st, Breeze; 202nd, Breeze; 203rd, Breeze; 204th, Breeze; 205th, Breeze; 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273rd, Breeze; 274th, Breeze; 275th, Breeze; 276th, Breeze; 277th, Breeze; 278th, Breeze; 279th, Breeze; 280th, Breeze; 281st, Breeze; 282nd, Breeze; 283rd, Breeze; 284th, Breeze; 285th, Breeze; 286th, Breeze; 287th, Breeze; 288th, Breeze; 289th, Breeze; 290th, Breeze; 291st, Breeze; 292nd, Breeze; 293rd, Breeze; 294th, Breeze; 295th, Breeze; 296th, Breeze; 297th, Breeze; 298th, Breeze; 299th, Breeze; 300th, Breeze; 301st, Breeze; 302nd, Breeze; 303rd, Breeze; 304th, Breeze; 305th, Breeze; 306th, Breeze; 307th, Breeze; 308th, Breeze; 309th, Breeze; 310th, Breeze; 311st, Breeze; 312nd, Breeze; 313th, Breeze; 314th, Breeze; 315th, Breeze; 316th, Breeze; 317th, Breeze; 318th, Breeze; 319th, Breeze; 320th, Breeze; 321st, Breeze; 322nd, Breeze; 323rd, Breeze; 324th, Breeze; 325th, Breeze; 326th, Breeze; 327th, Breeze; 328th, Breeze; 329th, Breeze; 330th, Breeze; 331st, Breeze; 332nd, Breeze; 333rd, Breeze; 334th, Breeze; 335th, Breeze; 336th, Breeze; 337th, Breeze; 338th, Breeze; 339th, Breeze; 340th, Breeze; 341st, Breeze; 342nd, Breeze; 343rd, Breeze; 344th, Breeze; 345th, Breeze; 346th, Breeze; 347th, Breeze; 348th, Breeze; 349th, Breeze; 350th, Breeze; 351st, Breeze; 352nd, Breeze; 353rd, Breeze; 354th, Breeze; 355th, Breeze; 356th, Breeze; 357th, Breeze; 358th, Breeze; 359th, Breeze; 360th, Breeze; 361st, Breeze; 362nd, Breeze; 363rd, Breeze; 364th, Breeze; 365th, Breeze; 366th, Breeze; 367th, Breeze; 368th, Breeze; 369th, Breeze; 370th, Breeze; 371st, Breeze; 372nd, Breeze; 373rd, Breeze; 374th, Breeze; 375th, Breeze; 376th, Breeze; 377th, Breeze; 378th, Breeze; 379

Oakland, California, Feb. 15.

Both Virginia Wade and Audrey Martin, the American prodigy, were defeated by the Englishwoman in the first round. Miss Wade reached the goal of the \$125,000 championship here last night.

Miss Wade was helped by a victory over her opponent, Rosemary Belton, in the second round. She needed American gift to a cricketer in the later stages of their match. With the British gift 4-3 she then tried to reach a crosscourt shot, but she was unable to do so. She was hit and sprained her ankle. The match was tied, but Miss Wade was forced to lose the next game. She was unable to reach the Wimbledon championship when she was defeated by Miss Wade in the second round 3-6, 3-6.

It could have been an all-British final had Sue Barker retained the initiative in her quarter-final match with Miss Jaeger. Miss Barker was forced to lose the first set, but she recovered to romp through the second set in 20 minutes. The third set was a thriller, with Miss Jaeger continuing to bring in his crisp plays and long drives. The fourth set was a thriller as Miss Barker lost her earlier accuracy. She also lost the match 3-6, 3-6, 1-6.

In her semi-final round match, Miss Barker was defeated by Miss Jaeger 7-6, 7-6. The Australian girl, seeded third, had beaten Miss Jaeger in the quarter-final, losing to the Yugoslavian player who was the Yugoslavian player who was to stay on the grass and drive to the corner of the net with pinpoint accuracy. Reuter.

[illegible][illegible]

Gula Racoon, Florida, Feb. 14.—
 Guillermo Vilas, of Argentina,
 defeated Vitas Gerulaitis, of the
 United States, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, to
 earn a place in the final of the
 \$300,000 four-man Grand Slam
 tournament here today. In the
 first round, Vilas, 25, of Mar del
 Plata, who is the Argentine, who
 easily beat his fellow American
 Brian Teacher 6-3, 6-1.

 Gerulaitis, playing in place of
 Bjorn Borg, who withdrew be-
 cause of illness, was serving
 as the second seed. He lost
 two games in a row after saving
 3-1 and, after making the seventh
 game a tie-breaker, he made five
 double-faults, lost the follow-
 ing three games and the match.

 Borg, the defending champion,
 said he had pulled out because
 he had fever and respiratory
 infection. He had been suffering
 from influenza for the last
 month.

 Lennart Bergelin, Borg's coach,
 said: "Bjorn has been sick for
 about a month. He has been sick
 six days after winning the Masters last
 month." Borg had practised with
 Gerulaitis in the rain here on
 Thursday and afterwards said that
 he was "in good luck." He said,
 "du, but I've been working hard,"
 he said at the time.

 In a challenge tournament in
 Toronto last week Borg lost con-
 secutive matches to Jimmy Connors
 and John McEnroe. He was pulled
 out of the match to decide third
 place. Borg and McEnroe are
 going to Australia early next week
 to play a series of exhibition
 series for total prize money
 of \$1m. The winner of the series
 will also receive a gold racket
 worth \$75,000.—Reuter.

Swimming

BARCELONA: 100 metres butterfly: 1. S. Edwards, 1:59.96; 200 metres: 4:22.93; 400 metres: 10:02.93; 800 metres: 21:02.93; 1,600 metres: 38:02.93; 3,200 metres: 1:13:02.93; 4,800 metres: 1:53:02.93; 6,400 metres: 2:33:02.93; 8,000 metres: 3:13:02.93; 9,600 metres: 3:53:02.93; 11,200 metres: 4:33:02.93; 12,800 metres: 5:13:02.93; 14,400 metres: 5:53:02.93; 16,000 metres: 6:33:02.93; 17,600 metres: 7:13:02.93; 19,200 metres: 7:53:02.93; 20,800 metres: 8:33:02.93; 22,400 metres: 9:13:02.93; 24,000 metres: 9:53:02.93; 25,600 metres: 10:33:02.93; 27,200 metres: 11:13:02.93; 28,800 metres: 11:53:02.93; 30,400 metres: 12:33:02.93; 32,000 metres: 13:13:02.93; 33,600 metres: 13:53:02.93; 35,200 metres: 14:33:02.93; 36,800 metres: 15:13:02.93; 38,400 metres: 15:53:02.93; 40,000 metres: 16:33:02.93; 41,600 metres: 17:13:02.93; 43,200 metres: 17:53:02.93; 44,800 metres: 18:33:02.93; 46,400 metres: 19:13:02.93; 48,000 metres: 19:53:02.93; 49,600 metres: 20:33:02.93; 51,200 metres: 21:13:02.93; 52,800 metres: 21:53:02.93; 54,400 metres: 22:33:02.93; 56,000 metres: 23:13:02.93; 57,600 metres: 23:53:02.93; 59,200 metres: 24:33:02.93; 60,800 metres: 25:13:02.93; 62,400 metres: 25:53:02.93; 64,000 metres: 26:33:02.93; 65,600 metres: 27:13:02.93; 67,200 metres: 27:53:02.93; 68,800 metres: 28:33:02.93; 70,400 metres: 29:13:02.93; 72,000 metres: 29:53:02.93; 73,600 metres: 30:33:02.93; 75,200 metres: 31:13:02.93; 76,800 metres: 31:53:02.93; 78,400 metres: 32:33:02.93; 80,000 metres: 33:13:02.93; 81,600 metres: 33:53:02.93; 83,200 metres: 34:33:02.93; 84,800 metres: 35:13:02.93; 86,400 metres: 35:53:02.93; 88,000 metres: 36:33:02.93; 89,600 metres: 37:13:02.93; 91,200 metres: 37:53:02.93; 92,800 metres: 38:33:02.93; 94,400 metres: 39:13:02.93; 96,000 metres: 39:53:02.93; 97,600 metres: 40:33:02.93; 99,200 metres: 41:13:02.93; 100,800 metres: 41:53:02.93; 102,400 metres: 42:33:02.93; 104,000 metres: 43:13:02.93; 105,600 metres: 43:53:02.93; 107,200 metres: 44:33:02.93; 108,800 metres: 45:13:02.93; 110,400 metres: 45:53:02.93; 112,000 metres: 46:33:02.93; 113,600 metres: 47:13:02.93; 115,200 metres: 47:53:02.93; 116,800 metres: 48:33:02.93; 118,400 metres: 49:13:02.93; 120,000 metres: 49:53:02.93; 121,600 metres: 50:33:02.93; 123,200 metres: 51:13:02.93; 124,800 metres: 51:53:02.93; 126,400 metres: 52:33:02.93; 128,000 metres: 53:13:02.93; 129,600 metres: 53:53:02.93; 131,200 metres: 54:33:02.93; 132,800 metres: 55:13:02.93; 134,400 metres: 55:53:02.93; 136,000 metres: 56:33:02.93; 137,600 metres: 57:13:02.93; 139,200 metres: 57:53:02.93; 140,800 metres: 58:33:02.93; 142,400 metres: 59:13:02.93; 144,000 metres: 59:53:02.93; 145,600 metres: 60:33:02.93; 147,200 metres: 61:13:02.93; 148,800 metres: 61:53:02.93; 150,400 metres: 62:33:02.93; 152,000 metres: 63:13:02.93; 153,600 metres: 63:53:02.93; 155,200 metres: 64:33:02.93; 156,800 metres: 65:13:02.93; 158,400 metres: 65:53:02.93; 160,000 metres: 66:33:02.93; 161,600 metres: 67:13:02.93; 163,200 metres: 67:53:02.93; 164,800 metres: 68:33:02.93; 166,400 metres: 69:13:02.93; 168,000 metres: 69:53:02.93; 169,600 metres: 70:33:02.93; 171,200 metres: 71:13:02.93; 172,800 metres: 71:53:02.93; 174,400 metres: 72:33:02.93; 176,000 metres: 73:13:02.93; 177,600 metres: 73:53:02.93; 179,200 metres: 74:33:02.93; 180,800 metres: 75:13:02.93; 182,400 metres: 75:53:02.93; 184,000 metres: 76:33:02.93; 185,600 metres: 77:13:02.93; 187,200 metres: 77:53:02.93; 188,800 metres: 78:33:02.93; 190,400 metres: 79:13:02.93; 192,000 metres: 79:53:02.93; 193,600 metres: 80:33:02.93; 195,200 metres: 81:13:02.93; 196,800 metres: 81:53:02.93; 198,400 metres: 82:33:02.93; 200,000 metres: 83:13:02.93; 201,600 metres: 83:53:02.93; 203,200 metres: 84:33:02.93; 204,800 metres: 85:13:02.93; 206,400 metres: 85:53:02.93; 208,000 metres: 86:33:02.93; 209,600 metres: 87:13:02.93; 211,200 metres: 87:53:02.93; 212,800 metres: 88:33:02.93; 214,400 metres: 89:13:02.93; 216,000 metres: 89:53:02.93; 217,600 metres: 90:33:02.93; 219,200 metres: 91:13:02.93; 220,800 metres: 91:53:02.93; 222,400 metres: 92:33:02.93; 224,000 metres: 93:13:02.93; 225,600 metres: 93:53:02.93; 227,200 metres: 94:33:02.93; 228,800 metres: 95:13:02.93; 230,400 metres: 95:53:02.93; 232,000 metres: 96:33:02.93; 233,600 metres: 97:13:02.93; 235,200 metres: 97:53:02.93; 236,800 metres: 98:33:02.93; 238,400 metres: 99:13:02.93; 240,000 metres: 99:53:02.93; 241,600 metres: 1:00:33:02.93; 243,200 metres: 1:01:13:02.93; 244,800 metres: 1:01:53:02.93; 246,400 metres: 1:02:33:02.93; 248,000 metres: 1:03:13:02.93; 249,600 metres: 1:03:53:02.93; 251,200 metres: 1:04:33:02.93; 252,800 metres: 1:05:13:02.93; 254,400 metres: 1:05:53:02.93; 256,000 metres: 1:06:33:02.93; 257,600 metres: 1:07:13:02.93; 259,200 metres: 1:07:53:02.93; 260,800 metres: 1:08:33:02.93; 262,400 metres: 1:09:13:02.93; 264,000 metres: 1:09:53:02.93; 265,600 metres: 1:10:33:02.93; 267,200 metres: 1:11:13:02.93; 268,800 metres: 1:11:53:02.93; 270,400 metres: 1:12:33:02.93; 272,000 metres: 1:13:13:02.93; 273,600 metres: 1:13:53:02.93; 275,200 metres: 1:14:33:02.93; 276,800 metres: 1:15:13:02.93; 278,400 metres: 1:15:53:02.93; 280,000 metres: 1:16:33:02.93; 281,600 metres: 1:17:1

[illegible]

By a Special Correspondent

In winning his third 14 and under Saab title in three starts, Rick Whitehead of Kent in yesterday's final dropped only one game to Yorkshire's Jason Goodall at Derby Sports Centre.

In the two previous Saab tournaments the two highest seeded players in the finals were the highest seeded players but the feeling in these tennis circles is that Whitehead is moving up the ranks at this level. He is more strongly left handed than his strokes are the reverse of. Fit and, perhaps most important, he has a more of a good enough attitude not to let points slip away unnecessarily.

The relief Whitehead must have felt at surviving a somewhat edgy semi-final with the 12 year old Yorkshire lad, Stephen Heron, may have something to do with his easy and confident show-making in his final.

His opponent was the first class and his opponent, who is perhaps a little too apt to extend an air of despondency, did nothing to prompt any kind of alarm.

Among the girls, Joanne Louis won her second Saab title when she beat the 12 year old Essex player Hampshire 6-4, 6-0. The first four games of this match took place as the last 12. There was a second game containing a slight duces but after that the match was marshalled her usual composure, she was given no further trouble.

BOYS
Whitehead (Kent) beat S. Heron (Yorkshire) best 5, 6-0. Goodall (Yorkshire) beat R. James (Yorkshire) best 6-4, 6-0. Whitehead beat Goodall, 6-4, 6-0.

GIRLS Semi-final round: Joanne Louis (Kent) beat Hampshire 6-4, 6-0. Gillies (Hampshire) beat A. Unwin (Kent) best 6-4, 6-0.

Final: Louis beat Gillies 6-4, 6-0.

[illegible]

Tennis

GALLI, Colombia V Perri, 7-6;
Snyder, Neal V Nasser, 6-3; F.
Gonzales (Puerto Rico), 6-2, 6-3.

THE ARTS

Village girl convinced of her inspiration

Saint Joan
Cambridge

Irving Wardle

Saint Joan is Shaw's one foray into popular myth-making, offering a heroic portrait undisturbed by his usual ironic graffitti. Hence its often fatal appeal to leading actresses lured by the unique prospect of an idealized Shavian heroine. Nancy Meckler's Cambridge Theatre Company production has clearly been staged for the sake of Julie Covington, but neither in her performance nor in the surrounding casting is there any trace of the armour-plated, tear-jerking martyr. Miss Covington begins and ends as an awkward village girl with sickening-out ears who happens to be convinced that she is divinely inspired, and who succeeds in turning even the most precariously heightened stretches of Shavian rhetoric into incoherent common speech. She does not articulate Joan's two big reversals of confidence with enough definition. When she loses her friends after the

coronation, and when she loses faith in her voices during the trial, she slides into despair rather than picking her moment. But what never falters is her command of the two sides of the character: the submissive peasant, always ready to obey feudal orders and the vessel of angelic inspiration who can quietly place a hand on the shoulder of the Dauphin (Ronnie Letham) giving him the power to snap his fingers in the face of the court.

The surrounding company includes a few splendidly ineffectual performances, but so far as Joan's principal adversaries are concerned she is worthily matched: particularly by John Phillips's Cauchon and Fulton Mackay's Inquisitor—the first a wide-eyed diplomat with great resources of theological passion, the second a sweetly benevolent father of the church impervious to all earthly horrors. Patrick Robertson and Rosemary Verey supply an arrangement of mobile scaffolds suggesting the Orleanist court and cathedral interiors, while constantly preserving the image of an inescapable prison.

The Comic Strip
Boulevard Theatre

Michael Church

"Ladies and gentlemen, will you take your seats for the Festival of Erotica." There is a magic moment during the Saturday night interval at the Raymond Revuebar when, like chalk and cheese, two audiences converge. Clutching their drinks the businessmen file off first, in pursuit of freshly delights. The remainder file off in another direction, braced for a second blood-stained hour of the Comic Strip.

This is a world presided over by a human volcano called Alexei Sayle. Being a man of taste and discrimination, Mr Sayle feels duty bound to communicate his feelings about some of the awfully nice, sincere, deserving people who are riding high at present. Being possessed of a Michelin body, a very loud voice, and a brain that only works on over-drive, it is perhaps inevitable that he should express these feelings in a somewhat startling form.

Before he has been on stage thirty seconds, his nice, sincere, Time Out-reading audience realize that they are themselves his principal target. This evening is in aid of Help A London Kid—Kill A Social Worker. To the accompaniment of gusts of laughter that big hoarse-word alternative is stripped of its fake significance and politically-sound corpses start to litter the ground.

This is a world where Thatcher bashing is left to plodding bores at the Riverside

Three Choirs' Common Market flavour

The 25th Three Choirs festival, to be held at Worcester from August 22 to August 29, will have a strong Common Market flavour, said Dr Donald Hunt, this year's festival conductor, at last week's press conference. There will be a special emphasis on music from Denmark, Germany and France, with the first performance of Masses by Langlais and Villoteau, and the British premiere of works by Jeppesen and Sallinen.

New works from British composers include Jonathan Harvey's *Resurrection* and a motet from Dr Herbert Sumson, who conducted the festival (the oldest in the world) for the first time at Gloucester in 1928, and on many subsequent occasions. Roxburgh's *The Rock*, commissioned for the 1978 festival but first given outside the festival, will have

its first performance at the Three Choirs.

The anniversary of the death of Elgar, and the 50th of Nielsen, will be commemorated, and following the success of the Elgar serenade in 1978, there will be a late-night Viennese concert in the cathedral.

Other main events will be Elgar's *The Apostles*, Mahler's Symphony No 2 conducted by Gunter Herbig, and Berlioz's *Grand Messe des Morts*. Orchestras will be the City of Birmingham Symphony, Royal Philharmonic and BBC North-

Kenneth Loveland

Paavo Berglund's Scottish post

The Scottish National Orchestra announced at a news conference in Glasgow on Thursday that Mr Paavo Berglund, the 39-year-old Helsinki-born former principal conductor of the Finnish Radio-Symphony Orchestra, had been appointed principal guest conductor of the Scottish National Orchestra for September this year. The appointment is for an initial

period of three years, during which he will conduct concerts for a period of four weeks in each winter season.

He succeeds Mr Gary Bertini, the Israeli conductor, who resigned in January after being principal guest conductor for the Scottish National Orchestra for the past two years.

Now for the elucidation of 'Lulu'

Tonight Alban Berg's *Lulu* will finally achieve her arrival home, when Covent Garden stages its first production of the opera in which she meets her end in London at the hands of Jack the Ripper. It has been a long wait. When Berg died, in 1935, the third act of *Lulu* was not quite finished, and his widow Helene came eventually to decide that it never should be. Only when she died, 41 years after her husband, did it become possible to mount the work complete, with final work on the score undertaken by the German composer Friedrich Cerha. Paris had the honour of the "real" world premiere two years ago.

In the meantime *Lulu* had been given in various truncated versions, using the two acts that Berg completed, and that Helene Berg approved, and filling the rest with fragments of music, mime, film or spoken dialogue. But both Sir Colin Davis, conductor of the Covent Garden *Lulu*, and Götz Friedrich, its producer, agree that such solutions were not satisfactory. Davis has long wanted to do the opera but decided to wait until the complete score was available. Friedrich did produce the two-act version for Danish television in 1970, but feels strongly that this cannot work on the stage "because then the third act becomes an appendix, which is ridiculous".

Nevertheless, the Cerha direct version does not reject such all the problems. Exactly why Berg did not finish the opera remains something of a mystery: all the essentials of the composition were done when he took time off to write his violin concerto. Davis suggests it was perhaps because "he identified very strongly with Alwa, who is a composer in the opera, and who is killed in the last scene, so that if he had completed it he would have been killing himself". Friedrich takes a rather more mystical line: "We have to remember that two of the greatest operas of this century, *Lulu* and *Moses und Aaron*, were not really brought to an end—and you can add also Janacek's *From the House of the Dead*. I think this is more than a coincidence. I think all three composers were searching for ways to finish their works, and not finding them."

Thus, despite the deep admiration for Cerha's work shown by everyone involved in the Covent Garden production and echoed by anyone else who knows the score, the third act has to be regarded as having less authority than the rest. "It's not as Cerha admits, so precisely worked out," says Davis. "The first spins off into oblivion."

Some plays, it is true, are awful (though none sink to the level of much that passes for "family viewing"). Many, especially at present, are technically interesting, but not very good. Over the past two years quite a few have reached heights seldom attained by the London stage and never by the British film industry. (The truism again: television is the British film industry.) Whether superbly reworked classic revivals, or binging topical plays, for today, it seems monstrous that these productions should be denied the *Sons and Lovers* treatment—a quick and automatic repeat.

Books

The Imitation Game

By Ian McEwan

(Jonathan Cape £5.95)

You can't keep a good man down, but you can, alas, a good play. It is there, in the incongruity between the amount of time, talent and money expended on a BBC play and the amount of time subsequently allocated for its enjoyment by the nation?

"Have you seen *Amadeus* yet?" "No. We're going next week." "Did you see *My Dear Polina*?" "Damm. Missed it." Unless a play wins an award, or unless it is surrounded by a tremendous burst of friendly publicity, there is no guarantee that it will get even one repeat before the BBC's rights to it lapse and it finally spins off into oblivion.

Some plays, it is true, are awful (though none sink to the level of much that passes for "family viewing"). Many, especially at present, are technically interesting, but not very good. Over the past two years quite a few have reached heights seldom attained by the London stage and never by the British film industry. (The truism again: television is the British film industry.) Whether superbly reworked classic revivals, or binging topical plays, for today, it seems monstrous that these productions should be denied the *Sons and Lovers* treatment—a quick and automatic repeat.

Ian McEwan's *The Imitation Game* is a play about yesterday, in this sense for justice. But McEwan, independently of television, a hot literary property backed by an energetic publisher, so for his work there

resources when they took on the challenge, and part of the success was the roughness of the translation, both into the English language and into English performances. Their smoother, and somewhat revised, revival at the Half Moon Theatre is a way with the production by Colin Granger and David Lavender is still part of its charm.

Valentin is a beer-hall comedian, an originator in that already special blend of quirky skills that made up the German cabaret. If Eva Schiffer's translation, dutifully retaining the German names and German structure, finds a readerly English appeal nowadays, it is partly because the oblique absurdity of the jokes does not seem so alien and more, his skits and stories seem at home in a world made in Monty Python's image.

Not all the performances settle naturally into the scatty



Götz Friedrich and Sir Colin Davis during a break in rehearsal

two acts have a great variety of vocal 'delirium'—singing, half-singing, speaking, speechless—this is not so in the third act, so sometimes you have to make your own guesses about what Berg might have done."

But there can be no question of the third act not being vital to the meaning of the opera, even if it does make for a long and taxing evening for the central character. The American soprano Karan Armstrong, Covent Garden's *Lulu*, remarks that "it's like singing three Salomes on the same night and then Brünnhilde on top." And the reference to Strauss's opera is pertinent, as Friedrich explains. "Salome is a little girl whose main characteristic is curiosity: she isn't a vamp or a man-eating monster. In that she is close to *Lulu*."

At the start of the opera, however, *Lulu* is, if not a monster, then certainly an animal, as are all the principal characters, introduced by the Animal Trainer as inhabitants of his menagerie. This is what gives the clue, as Friedrich sees it, to the "mythological" aspect of the opera. The costumes and settings will in his production suggest the period of the work's composition, the Thirties, but *Lulu* does not

take place in a real bourgeois world: it is a circus, where human beings behave like animals, the other animals—

"It starts," Friedrich goes on, "as if *Lulu* is the snake. She kills all the other animals. Berg is showing us at first what we want to see: a kind of operatic peepshow, where *Lulu* is a pure sex object. Then the turning point comes in the middle of the second act, where this male view of woman is shown up for what it is. She loses all that is snake-like. She kills the most potent of the other animals—Schön, the tiger—and now she is hunted by the rest of the pack. And we recognize more and more what a weak, naive, human character she is in reality. Then at the end, where she becomes what people always thought she was, a prostitute, she shows us that she is no such thing. She even gives Jack the Ripper all the money she has: what kind of a prostitute is that?"

Davis sees a strange contrast between the hollow, inhuman characters and the richly expressive music they have to sing, the cynical history of *Lulu*'s rise and fall and the warmth of the score. "Sometimes I feel there's almost no connection between what's happening on stage and what I'm

doing in the pit. The music is so expansive, so romantic. It's littered with expression markings almost in the way that Elgar is."

It is indeed an utterly captivating score, and becomes quite extraordinarily lush at *Lulu*'s wretched end, as Friedrich points out. "Here, when Jack the Ripper comes in, Berg finds the most touching, the most beautiful and the most terrifying music—all together—and we have to ask what that means. I think probably he saw that she had killed like a cat, and that now she was ready to meet her end."

"I've tried to indicate that with the portrait of *Lulu*, which goes right through the opera and has a particular significance in every scene. It was commissioned by her first husband, used by Alwa on a theatre poster, put in an honoured place by Dr Schön, taken again by Alwa, then cut out from its frame by *Lulu*'s Lesbian admirer the Countess Geschwitz. At the end Jack starts to cut the picture with his knife, and *Lulu* is not sad: she is happy, because he is destroying the graven image that should never have been made."

"And I think this biblical term, 'graven image', has a

special relevance, because in our 'atheistic' 20th century— I call it so ironically—our gods are the pin-up girls, the film stars, the sex objects. *Lulu* is a victim of this, a victim of our culture, and so she is relieved when her image is destroyed." Is there then a connection with Schoenberg's unfinished opera? "Yes, indeed. I'm very influenced by *Moses und Aaron*, and of course one must remember that Berg dedicated *Lulu* to Schoenberg."

Salome, *Moses*, what else? Davis is impressed by how the music itself "seems with allusions to God's will which rather dragged its feet. Once settled, his voice proved over-large, the 'boisterous waves of the sea' invoked by him in no 178 threatening to drown all. On intention to those hoping for something more amorous was the first London performance of Schütz's *Siehe auf, meine Freundin*, unearthed a decade ago. Showing a rather stiff passion, this setting for double chorus of verses from the Song of Solomon was sung with unfocused sound and suffered additionally from some unattractive orchestration. Happily, the bite which would have helped its cause was given us in Bach's Concerto for oboe and violin, BWV 1060, where despite the somewhat rough edges less Miller's exemplary observation combined with Simon Standage's subtle refinement on the violin to give the most satisfying performance of the evening."

Paul Griffiths

is not a television script merely the equivalent of sheet music for a concert performance? Yes, but that is already a lot. One may, in this case, miss some of the crucial scoring by Richard Eyre's cameras, and in print the emphasis inevitably changes, but the mind's eye is not misled. Unlike the cinema, television is accepted as a writer's medium, and at the BBC the author's intentions are growing more, not less, sacrosanct.

Did you know that *Margaret: A Suitable Case for Treatment* was originally a BBC play? Do you remember the original television version of *Let's Murder Vividly*? David Mercer's *Collected TV Plays* are also about to be published (John Calder, two vols, £5.95 each). Some of the early ones come over, even now, with astonishing force.

Michael Church

Not much for lovers

Steinitz Bach
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Stephen Pettitt

"Music for Epiphany III and St Valentine's Day" as this concert mostly of Bach cantatas was enthusiastically proclaimed, contained little for starry-eyed lovers. Cantata no 73's opening words, *Herr, wie du wilt, translate as "Lord, as thou wilt, so do with me in life and in death's anguish"*, while Cantata no 90, *Es reißet euch ein schrecklich Ende*, is about the end of the world and no 178, *Wohlgott der Herr nicht bei uns hält*, is a stern warning against false prophets. Cupid was conspicuous by his absence.

Whether they were seasonal or not, Paul Steinitz, who conducted, offered us much fine music with these early Leipzig cantatas. The 50 singers of the London Bach Society were scarcely tested by their half-dozen chorales, and neither was Shelagh Molyneux who sang the only soprano recitative (in no 73) of the concert. Christopher Robson, an alto with a ringing tones, also had a relatively easy time, dealing efficiently with the recitatives in nos 90 and 178.

Things were more challenging for tenor and bass. Richard Morton, the former, displayed a smooth yet powerful voice, also marked by sounds of strain at the top of his register. The opening aria of no 90 saw Bach's quirky, dramatic lines forcing him to exploit all his technical facility. John Noble, the bass, warmed after his aria in no 73, an agonising mission to God's will which rather dragged its feet. Once settled, his voice proved over-large, the "boisterous waves of the sea" invoked by him in no 178 threatening to drown all. On intention to those hoping for something more amorous was the first London performance of Schütz's *Siehe auf, meine Freundin*, unearthed a decade ago. Showing a rather stiff passion, this setting for double chorus of verses from the Song of Solomon was sung with unfocused sound and suffered additionally from some unattractive orchestration. Happily, the bite which would have helped its cause was given us in Bach's Concerto for oboe and violin, BWV 1060, where despite the somewhat rough edges less Miller's exemplary observation combined with Simon Standage's subtle refinement on the violin to give the most satisfying performance of the evening."

Paul Griffiths

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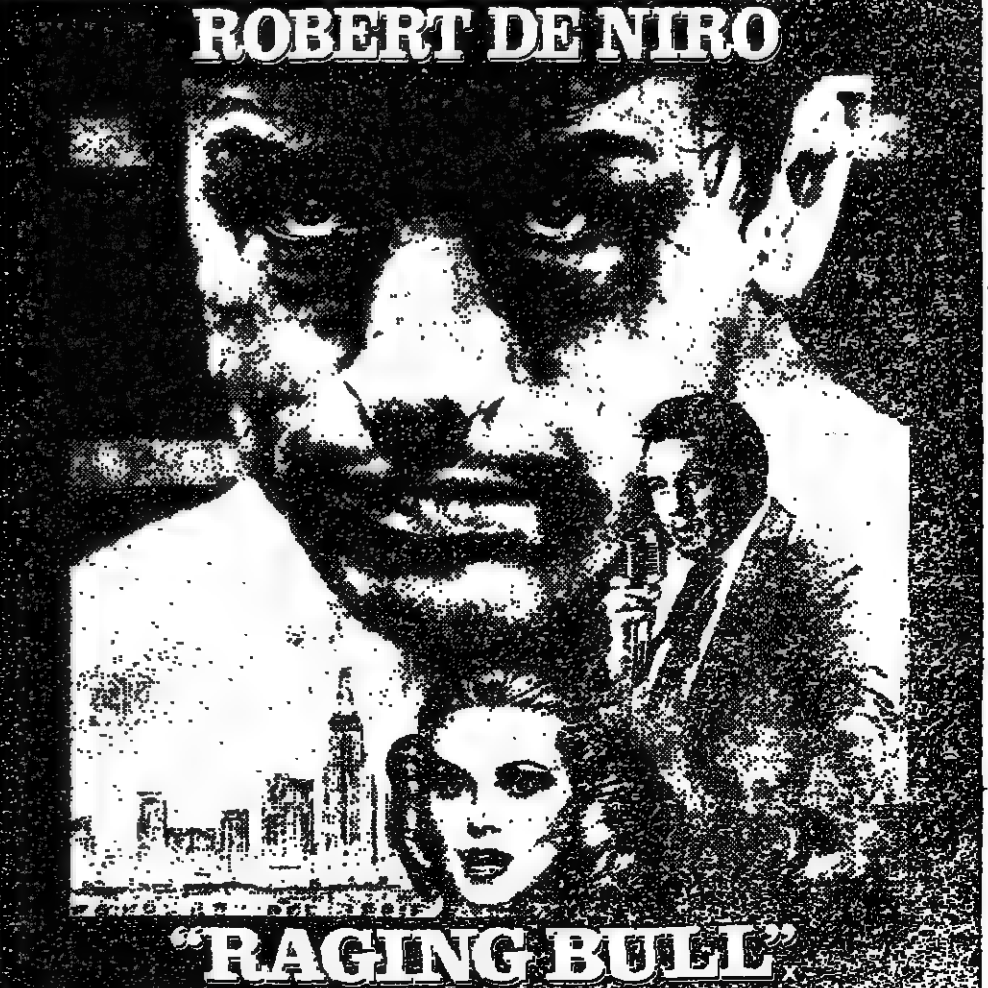
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Bill Brandt: Nudes

1945-80

Marlborough Fine Art

John Russell Taylor

For those of us who somehow felt that Campbell's Bill was an area of quiet grace and refinement, Bill Brandt's new show (until February 28) has a few surprises in store. Clearly a lot of very odd things go on there, mainly to nude young women. Here there is a trusted masked, which is presumably fairly routine. But what about that unfortunate lady one of whose arms appears to have turned into a chicken wing? After all, we all remember what happened to Olga Caclanova at the end of *Freaks*. And it is no belittlement of these recent Brandt photographs to observe that they treat much the same sort of cosmic unease as Tod Browning's masterpiece.

For Brandt has moved through the years, by gradual stages, from realism to surrealism. He still continues to print from his negatives of the 1930s, but whereas the contemporary prints of famous pic-

tures like the two housemaids in a well-heeled domestic interior have a subdued smoky glow to them and a lot of delicate gradation, the recent prints are much starker, with coarser, more pronounced contrasts and little middle ground. Brandt's way of seeing his characters has moved closer to Genet's conception of his Maids than a J. B. Priestley view of the world. And this change of approach to his own past, not unexpectedly, reflects the more radical changes in his way of viewing the present.

While inevitably the photographer always, consciously or unconsciously, manipulates what he sees as he takes the photograph of it, Brandt seems in the 1930s to have fired in with a generally social-realist tradition. Since the war he has turned more and more to staging his subjects rather than finding them. In the 1950s he became preoccupied—a preoccupation which still persists—with the light and shade and texture of cliffs and rocky, pebbly beaches. Sometimes as an unexpected decor for nudes which are frequently little more than just another, softer

texture, just another, more rounded shape in a composition which approaches abstraction. There is one photograph, for instance, in which the central feature is a woman's body, sitting bent forward, seen from behind in such a way that it seems to become one with its environment. Like some large and curiously but not impressively shaped pebble. There is another in which the fingers of two hands, in giant close-up, rest on pebbles, hovering ambiguously in our imagination between stone and seaweed.

There is seldom anything definably erotic about the nudes from what one might call Brandt's formalist phase. But of late things have changed again. The recent nudes in interiors are, among other things, quite clearly sexual interest. They are also more evidently placed in dramatic situations, as though acting out private fantasies. There is something theatrical about them (Theatre of Cruelty, perhaps), and with them the classic progression of many modern painters is complete: realist: formalist: surrealist. Without doubt Brandt is a major artist, still at the peak of his form.

When will Turkey's 'pashas' hand over to the politicians?

A broad spectrum of opinion in Turkey believes today that elections for a return to parliamentary democracy should be expected towards the end of 1982. However, the country's ruling generals adamantly refuse to be pinned down to a date.

"The 1960 revolution lost control the day it announced an election date in advance", one of the key generals of the regime told me. "We shall not make the same mistake."

Clearly, what annoys the "pashas" (generals) is that their intentions and good faith should be put in doubt, especially by foreigners. There was no alternative, this general said. "It is not willing that we took over. We are trying to wipe the slate clean for a new and fertile democratic life. Then, we go."

My meeting with one of the country's six ruling generals had been arranged at a private luncheon in a house just outside Ankara. He agreed to be interviewed on condition that he should remain unnamed—first, in deference to his colleagues; secondly, to avoid setting a precedent for the domestic and foreign press.

"I am a simple soldier," he said. "And when the time comes I shall retire. We have no ambition other than to see this nation happy again." He was speaking on behalf of the ruling "National Security Council", which is headed by General Kenan Evren, the Chief of Staff as Head of State, the four service chiefs, and General Haydar Salik, as Secretary-General.

Turkey's military leaders tend to take a very black-and-white view of two serious problems facing the regime: they believe that terrorism was primarily implanted here by "invisible" foreign powers bent on destabilising the regime; and they attribute Western criticism of their regime to bad faith among the "heavily infiltrated" news media and follow-travelling parliamentarians.

"We have a saying in Turkish," the general said. "It

is easy for a bachelor to divorce". It is just as easy to make suggestions about Turkey from outside where life is peaceful, the economic future secure, and society stable. But what do you do when your country faces a full-scale catastrophe?

The generals' motives are not questioned only by foreigners; they are questioned also by Turkey's dispossessed politicians both on the left and right. And the paradox is that both sides suspect the ease with which the generals, who seized power only five months ago, managed to curb terrorism, the country's biggest plague for 12 years. Why, they ask, did they not try just as hard in the 20 months of martial law before the coup?

"We were sick of the squabbling of the politicians," the general said. He put his case forcefully. "All they did was talk, talk, talk. They never did the martial law commanders the powers they needed to stamp out political violence."

Today the authorities can detain suspects for 90 days

without charges, and shoot to kill if an order to surrender is not obeyed. But it was the evenhanded way with which the regime dealt with both right and left extremists that was its greatest asset. The general said: "The security forces feel freer because there are no political pressures."

How much freer? I ventured; enough, perhaps, to violate human rights? One had heard too many horror stories about torture. Can they all be false? The general did not bristle up. He took the question in his stride.

"The other night," he replied, "I watched on television an episode of *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* where the suspect displayed, on the following morning, a big black eye. It happens in the United Kingdom. It happens in the United States. It happens elsewhere in Europe."

"You have to get to the roots of terrorism," he insisted. "And you do not get answers or confessions laughing, with piped-in music. But if there is ever a denunciation of torture or

brutality, an investigation is ordered promptly. We have so far investigated eight cases that were reported to us."

The general felt genuinely puzzled by reactions in Western Europe. He attributed this hostility to methodical left-wing propaganda. "We do not have enough talent to make counter-propaganda," he complained.

"But we do say to our critics frankly: please come to this country. Do not make your judgment from abroad. If you see anything wrong, let us discuss it freely. If we make mistakes, we are willing to correct them."

The truth is that popular relief at the military takeover continues to be just as pervasive in this country as it was five months ago. The explanation offered by Turkish politicians is that the horrors of terrorism have distorted the scale of political values, law and order prevailing over the love of freedom.

Yet one can sense a latent impatience in the country, although it is difficult to tell whether this is because the

Turks expect of their generals to work instant miracles. And despite some tangible accomplishments towards restoring public order and the economy, they have yet to conjure up any miracles.

The success of the country's economic stabilisation plan, in fact, depends largely on Western economic help, and the regime feels confident that, despite a growing impatience in Europe, this aid will not be cut off for political reasons. The general said: "They would not want to see Turkey out of Europe."

The warning was implicit. But he refused to elaborate. He said instead: "If our allies help us, the regime's duration will be shortened; our economic problems will be stabilised, and our political difficulties overcome earlier."

General Evren announced in a speech in Konya last month that between August 30 and October 29 (Victory Day and Republic Day) a constituent assembly would be set up to prepare the new constitution.

What shocked the politicians, however, was not so much his declaration that they would be excluded from the assembly, but the implied warning that they might also be barred from politics forever.

Apparently no firm decision has been taken by the ruling council. The general said that in General Evren's view all the members of the last Parliament should be disqualified by a rider in the new constitution. The political parties would be allowed to continue, except those that the constitutional court might close down for specific violations of penal code provisions on secularism and civil strife.

The "pashas" are very conscious of the errors committed by previous military leaders during their forays into politics. And they are determined to protect themselves from these pitfalls. One danger is to quit before their self-assigned job is done: "We want to be sure that another intervention will not be needed in a couple of years," the General said.

Another risk of course, is of a coup within a coup, as was attempted after the 1960 revolution. The General volunteered: "It simply cannot be done. After September 12, operation was staged by the top hierarchy of the armed forces and the chain of command remains unbroken."

None the less the longer the generals stay, the greater the temptation for other officers to follow their lead. The pashas are aware of this, so as soon as the constitution is endorsed by the electorate, the assembly will vote the new laws on the political parties and the electoral system. The pashas are preparing for the political parties to prepare, there will be elections.

"What we aspire for this country," the general said, summing up, "is a democracy built on such firm foundations that, I hope, our successors in the future will not blame us the way we now blame our predecessors."

Mario Modiano

Peter Jay

The opposite is also true

Sir Isaiah Berlin used to say in his lectures—or at least he said in one lecture—that when a man speaks of the need for realism one may always be sure that this is the prelude to some bloody deed. So, too, when a political leader speaks of the need to adhere to the existing "long term strategy" one may usually be sure that this is the prelude to an abrupt about face in the here and now, all the more when such talk is accompanied by elaborate explanations of the necessity for flexible, short term tactical adjustments to take account of changed circumstances.

Not for the about face to be complete and lasting, does such a leader need to have Sir Harold Wilson's uniquely nimble talent for retracing his steps rapidly while continuing to face in the original direction, menacing the very forces in the face of which he is rapidly withdrawing brandishing fist, voluble threats and all other gestures appropriate to fearless attack. But when it comes as in the Prime Minister's answers to questions in Parliament last Thursday, to the selective endorsement of Mr Francis Pym's early homily on the merits and need for tactical flexibility in new circumstances, the existing records set by Sir Harold in the art of protesting too much no longer look unbreakable.

Wherever any one else may have deduced from Mr Pym's speech, the Prime Minister's recollection of the "long term strategy" is about to suffer the fate of other sacred relics: to be embalmed, honoured, disregarded, and finally forgotten. They will presume that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in preparation for his budget next month, will be studying with avid attention the dexterity with which the new President of the United States is apparently preparing to apply the good old Keynesian remedy of boosting the Federal budget deficit substantially to more than \$100,000m in the face of the gathering American recession while continuing to talk the language of fiscal stringency and sound money.

Of course in the United States President Reagan has the benefit of the General Bank which, broadly, both knows how to keep some rough control over the money supply and mainly believes to actually doing so. So the actual consequences of his fiscal refusal to combine with tight money are more likely to be high interest rates and even more depressed industrial and housing investment than to be the surge in growth and fall in unemployment which the new official forecasters in Washington are beginning to canvas.

But the interesting point here is that in the Reagan version of neo-conservative economics the Pym-Thatcher doctrine is inverted. Instead of the elimination of the long-term strategy, the enduring safeguard against unemployment, we are told that the surge in growth that will come from lower taxes and higher defence spending cash—and thus the elimination of high unemployment—will be the way for a dramatic fall in inflation, no doubt there after becoming the most enduring safeguard against it.

For about a quarter of a century after the war it was conventionally believed that there was a necessary trade-off between inflation and unemployment and that, therefore, within certain limits more inflation meant less unemployment. We then discovered from painful experience that this was exactly wrong. Inflation was not a necessary evil, as against once for all, it was a continuing evil.

Then we discovered that unemployment had a strongly marked tendency to gravitate to its own uncomfortable high level and that it took faster and faster bouts of inflation to budge it even temporarily below that level.

The important practical conclusion for policy was that it was better to regard unemployment and inflation as independently determined by different influences and therefore to apply appropriate remedies to each (monetary and fiscal restraint to inflation; pay restraint and greater labour market efficiency to unemployment) and to disregard the purely temporary and short term interactions between inflation and unemployment as ephemeral and therefore misleading.

In short, policy should reject the premise that more inflation means less unemployment. This rejection was supposed to have been a lesson which those political leaders who regard themselves as "monetarists" had absorbed. But it seems that a lesson in logic as well as economics was necessary, in particular, in the difference between the logical relationships between contraries and between contradictories.

The logical connection between two contrary propositions is that they cannot both be true, although they can both be false. From the truth of one the falsity of the other cannot be inferred. Two contradictory propositions, on the other hand, cannot both be true and cannot both be false; and therefore, from the truth or falsity of one the falsity or truth of the other can be inferred.

Now it seems that the Prime Minister having rightly rejected as false the proposition that more inflation means less unemployment, has now embraced the contradictory proposition (namely that more inflation does not mean less unemployment) but its contrary, namely that less inflation means less unemployment. Thus she quoted approvingly from Mr Pym: "The attack on inflation is an attack on unemployment."

But being contrary and not contradictory propositions, it is quite possible that both (more inflation means less unemployment; and less inflation means less unemployment) are false. From the falsity of the first, the truth of the second does not follow.

More to the point, the second is essentially untrue, as well as being unnecessary and unhelpful to the justification of the government's intention to bring down inflation by fiscal and monetary means. (The ability of it and its agencies to implement these intentions may be quite different matter.)

It should be quite enough to say that, beyond the short term, less inflation does not mean more unemployment. It may well be fair to add that the high unemployment which is associated with the first stages of inflation in the short term is itself merely a reflection of unemployment previously averted by accelerating the rate of inflation in the short term. But that is not at all the same thing as saying that in any stable and enduring sense either more inflation or less inflation means less unemployment.

What remains at the end of the day therefore should be the question, "Very well, how then is unemployment to be reduced, given that this will not be achieved by regulating inflation either upwards or downwards and that, therefore, a low rather than a high rate of inflation may as well be preferred for its own sake?"

This is the issue to which both the government and its critics need to give the fullest attention for its own sake. Merely to have graduated from believing that more inflation means less unemployment to supposing that less inflation means less unemployment has contributed nothing to the development of a long term strategy for employment. By parity of reasoning equally little would be achieved by a "U-turn" from the new mantra back again to the old mantra.

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Turkey's "pashas"—the generals of the ruling National Security Council.

The rows that went into the building of New Delhi

To outflank this move, Lutyens, who in 1912 was asked to design the Viceroy's Lodge, nominated as his partner the architect of the new government buildings in Pretoria, Sir Herbert Baker.

The look of Delhi today and the history of the building of the city would have been very different if Lutyens had chosen to help him Sir Arthur Blomfield, the architect of the Royal College of Music, as he was tempted to do.

The building of New Delhi was birthed from the start. No sooner had the work begun when the First World War delayed progress, adding to the cost. Before long the expense of the project was a matter of public debate and many of the plans had to

be continually revised to bring them within a tight budget.

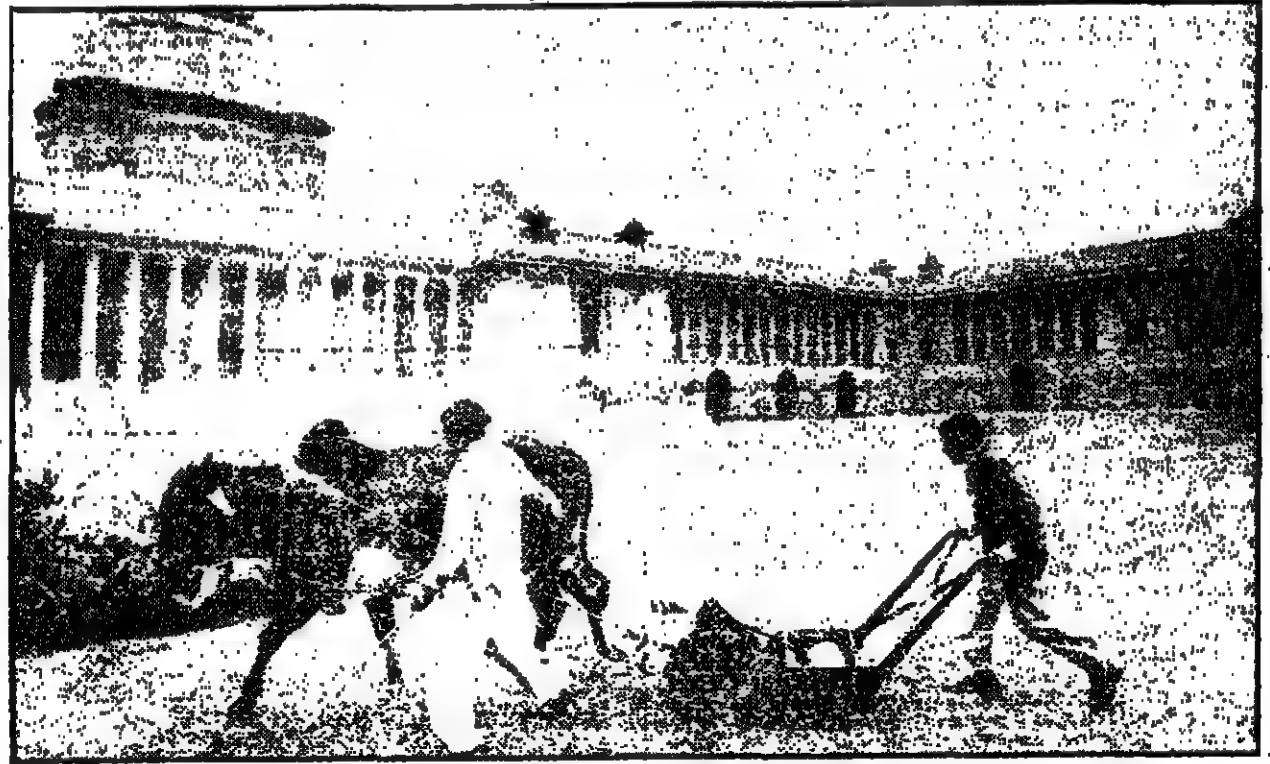
In the 20 years the city took to build, there were a number of viceroys, each with their own ideas on what the buildings should look like. And during that time there were political changes which necessitated a more responsive attitude towards the wishes of the Indians and of their national aspirations.

But the central difficulty in building the city was the breakdown in the relationship between Lutyens and Baker. By 1913 they had begun arguing over shared expenses and before long were to fall out completely over how New Delhi should look. They shared a house but were quickly not on speaking terms and the long sea

journeys between India and Europe which they took together were silent.

The major disagreement was over the main group of buildings at the end of the King's Way, where the original plans, drawn up by Lutyens, had envisaged a triumphal avenue, rather like the Champs Elysees, running from a war memorial arch, to be designed by Lutyens, to the Viceroy's Lodge.

After elephantine tours of Delhi's surrounding countryside the foundation commission had chosen a flat site for New Delhi to the south of the old city. Lord Hardinge, the Viceroy in 1912, agreed on the site in principle but decided that the Viceroy's house should be built on a low hill, giving a splendid view along the King's Way.



Lawn mowing by bullock at the presidential mansion, or Rathstrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi.

across to the far bank of the River Jumna.

Lutyens agreed, imagining that the government secretariat buildings, which Baker had designed, would be at the bottom of the hill. Baker insisted, however, that his two buildings, which would flank the King's Way in two arms to the front of the Viceroy's Lodge, should be built on the same level, forcing Lutyens to move the lodge further back.

More important then became the angle of the gradient leading from the King's Way to the Viceroy's Lodge. In a hurry, Lutyens had signed a memo which determined the gradient of the slope and did not realise his mistake until the work had been completed. Driving along the King's Way, all except the dome of the Viceroy's Lodge disappeared from view.

When Lutyens, cried, foul, Baker forbade a change, claiming that his buildings would be isolated from the road. Baker's design made more sense. The need for economies worked in Baker's favour.

Other changes favoured Baker. The political climate ensured that equal prominence should be given to both the Viceroy's Lodge and the new circular Parliament building, which Baker was to design. The rise in Indian national awareness also allowed Baker to add fussy Indian details of elephants and lotuses, in contrast to Lutyens's preference for circles and clean geometric shapes.

Lutyens's designs also tended to be expensive. His plans for bungalows faced in white marble were vetoed on grounds of cost, while Baker's residences, which Lutyens called "bungle-ons", were approved. Maharajas who could afford him.

Lutyens at last triumphed over the angry city. When the committee sat to ponder the names Georgeabad and Marypore were suggested. When Lutyens countered with Redlamore and Oozepore, it was decided to call it New Delhi.

Nor can there be any doubt about the beauty and wonder of Lutyens's Viceroy's Lodge. It remains today a spectacular palace, now renamed Rathstrapati Bhavan, and is the official residence of India's president. The splendid ballroom, the Durbar hall, where Lord Louis Mountbatten greeted India's first prime minister, the Mughal gardens, the private apartments and the furniture, all made especially in India to designs by Lutyens, testify to his genius.

Nicholas Wapshott

The gentrification of Harlem

Jeffrey Rouault, a 30-year-old Manhattan lawyer, offers his guests port and a delicious meal and speaks with justifiable pride of the Victorian terraced house he has lived in for a year. He points out his nineteenth century landscape paintings, from the Mohawk River School of upstate New York.

He explains how he has decorated the rooms in 13 carefully selected colours. On the garden floor, the dining room boasts a large antique table and Victorian standard chairs, the wine rack in the corner is well stocked.

"I have," he says proudly, "hold some big and elegant receptions here."

Nothing newsworthy about that, you might think. Here is a young man doing what comes naturally, showing off his nice new house to a visitor. Except that the house is in the centre of Harlem, the black capital of America, where through most of the 1960s and 1970s white people were frightened to wander, let alone to live.

or have been "improved" almost beyond recognition.

In Harlem, street after street of the houses, called brownstones after the soft brown sandstone of which many are built, remain in something like their original form, though often dilapidated. Adventurous whites with a pioneering spirit and an eye for a bargain are beginning to move in.

Despite predictable difficulties, Rouault at least is glad he did. "I wouldn't suggest that two middle-aged ladies of retiring disposition come to live here," he said. "But I love it. Where else could I afford all this space?" The house, built in 1880, measures 60ft by 25ft and has five floors.

And the transportation is excellent. It is a half an hour by subway to the Wall Street area, quarter of an hour to Times Square and less to the Lincoln Centre. (The Lincoln Centre, just north of the theatre district, is the city's main venue for concerts, opera and ballet.)

He used to live in a co-operatively owned apartment and found his new house while exploring Harlem on his bicycle. He paid \$25,000 for the brownstone and has spent perhaps three times that on repairing and decorating it.

The house faces Mount Morris Park, a small, tree-filled space, crowded in summer, whose main feature is a cast-iron fire tower from the middle of the nineteenth century. It is less than a five-minute walk from the subway station at 125th Street and Lenox Avenue, one of Harlem's focal points.

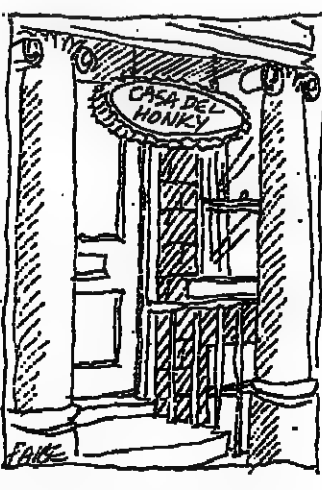
To get to the subway he must pass the corner of 124th Street where, in all weathers, man and woman loiter for what seem nefarious purposes. Conscious of the pervasive impression that Harlem is unsafe for white strangers, Rouault carried out his own test before completing the purchase.

He dressed up in his best court clothes and loitered round the area to see what would happen. Nothing did.

"It would be stupid to move my home to a place where I'm afraid to go about in normal clothes," he observed.

The house has been burgled once since he moved in, but such occurrences are common all over the city and suburbs. He has never been attacked in the street and only once involved in a racial incident with a customer at the local cafe.

What of his neighbours? He gets on well with those in the house next to his, but has poor relations with the people on the other side, which



he reckons is about average. "I've lived in New York 10 years and I've never got to know any of my neighbours, especially in the snooty co-op building I was in before this."

As for friends from other parts of New York, they fall into three categories: those who are fascinated by the area and will visit him whenever they have the chance; those who are a bit nervous but will make the effort; and those "who won't come up without a posse."

"The people I have real

respect and affection for will come up without any trouble," he says. Most taxi drivers will now take him home. Five years ago he would have found it hard to get one to do so.

The truth is that the streets of Harlem have become much safer in the past five years and one long-time resident explained why. Lancia Smedley, a voice and music teacher, is the leader of the Tenants' Association at Graham Court, one of the most fashionable apartment buildings in the city when it was built for wealthy whites in 1901.

Smedley has lived there for 20 years and says: "It's not a lot better since the city started the methadone programme. (Methadone is a drug distributed free to former heroin users.)"

In the late 60s and 70s the people on the streets needed the money for drugs and they would victimise anyone. Now there's methadone they don't need it."

Like many Harlem residents, Smedley is apprehensive at the prospect of an influx of middle-class whites.

"It's not so much the fear of white people moving in as it is the fear of losing our cultural identity, the ethnic spirit that each race has," he said.

"I like the feeling of being with black people. There's a difference in the way we cele-

brate life. We have more colour and energy."

He pointed to a poster on his office wall which read: "Discrimination. It's illegal." Then he asked:

"How can you at one moment say your objective is fair housing, and at the next say that the opportunity to buy these houses must be restricted to one ethnic group? What would stop people in an all-white community saying the same thing? It's a dangerous precedent."

Davis's solution is a lottery which gives Harlem residents a three-to-one advantage over outsiders of any colour. Any present resident who applies has his name put into the hat three times, as against once for outsiders.

This will not necessarily stop white buyers. If, for instance, 300 whites and only 100 blacks applied for the houses (ranging in price from \$5,000 to \$40,000), the odds would be equal as between black and white buyers.

Davis thinks the new white interest in Harlem is a compliment to its newly revived spirit. "People are really talking about Harlem, again," he said. "It's back on the map. People feel good about things

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up there now. I call it the second Harlem renaissance."

The first Harlem renaissance was an artistic movement of the 1920s, about a dozen years after blacks began to move into what had formerly been a good-class white suburb.

Rouault is less sanguine than Davis about the reason for the whites moving into Harlem. "They are going to move here not because they want to," he said. "Nobody wants to move here."

"They do it because of economic necessity. They have to. There is a finite and diminishing supply of housing."

He believes it will be beneficial to the area: crime will decrease, civil service will improve, and there may even one day be schools to which middle-class white parents will want to send their children.

The shops may get better, too. "At the moment there is no demand for those elegant products for which New York is famous," he complains.

When the high fashion boutiques move north of 110th Street, we will know times have changed. Rouault is sure they will. "It's only a matter of time," he predicts.

Michael Leapman



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NOT WITH ONE VOICE

A clear gap has developed between the ways in which different members of the present Government defend its record and approach. Nobody listening to Mrs Thatcher's speech to the Young Conservative conference at Eastbourne over the weekend could fail to detect the distinction in tone between her comments and the remarks of Lord Thorneycroft, the party chairman, and Mr Francis Pym, who is not only Leader of the House of Commons but also acts as the administration's spokesman extraordinary.

Lord Thorneycroft and Mr Pym have been reasserting the Conservative claim to be the party of the centre. Lord Thorneycroft did so explicitly when he spoke to the Parliamentary Press Gallery last week. Mr Pym did so by implication when he said at Putney that "common sense tells us that changed circumstances make adjustments necessary in both tactics and timing to meet altered conditions". They were both seeking credit for the political virtue of pragmatism. Mrs Thatcher, by contrast, after the merest genuflection towards pragmatism, was eager to present herself once again as a "conviction politician". "We are not merely a pragmatic party, responding to situations as they arise. We have a deeply held conviction of the kind of society we want to see".

There are certainly policy differences between Mrs Thatcher and some of her colleagues. But that is not evident when one compares her speech with those delivered last week by Lord Thorneycroft and Mr Pym. They would not dissent from her declaration that "the conquest of inflation has to be our first

economic priority", even though they would tend to be less single-minded in pursuing that objective. The policy gap was probably most evident during Mr Prior's speech at Eastbourne. Mrs Thatcher must surely have had some sympathy with those members of the conference who gave him a rough ride for being too soft on the unions. But at the same time, she must have been aware of the signs that Mr Prior has won his battle within the Cabinet to handle trade union affairs his way. The gap between Mrs Thatcher and some of her colleagues that matters at this time is essentially one of presentation.

This is by no means as doctrinal an administration as Mrs Thatcher would seem to believe, or as her critics allege. It has not cut public expenditure as one would have expected from Conservative campaign rhetoric. On the contrary, it is pouring additional money into British Leyland and the British Steel Corporation. It has not managed to control the money supply, yet it has reduced interest rates a bit and Mrs Thatcher has hinted that it will cut them again soon. Unemployment is high, but the Government has at least tried to combat the worst effects with such schemes as the Youth Opportunities Programme. There is now an incomes policy of a sort in the public sector and the approach to trade union reform has been decidedly cautious.

Yet much of this is obscured by the frequent proclamations that there will be no U-turn. No government could be popular in the present economic conditions, and no government at the present time would have been able to make these conditions much more favourable. To some extent, though, unpopularity has

been courted. Behind a smoke-screen of doctrine a good deal of pragmatic activity has been taking place, but because Mrs Thatcher has given the impression of being more attached to the smoke-screen than to the pragmatism the Government is deliberately what in fact it could not avoid.

It is this damaging impression that Lord Thorneycroft and Mr Pym have been principally concerned to correct. It is no coincidence that they are the two people in and around the Cabinet—Lord Thorneycroft is not actually a member, though he was in the Shadow Cabinet—who are most responsible for presenting the party to the public. Their anxiety has undoubtedly been increased by the phenomenon of the social democrats. They are right to be worried. Elsewhere in Europe Conservative parties do not have the same mass support as in this country, and there is no immutable law of politics which decrees that the British Conservatives would maintain their appeal if they were faced with a substantial party of the centre or very moderate left.

There are, therefore, strong electoral grounds for the Government presenting itself as a more pragmatic administration. But there is another reason why it should do so. The British are not a doctrinaire people. They have only a strictly limited taste for radical solutions. If there is to be the necessary public consent for the measures necessary at a time of economic difficulty it will be secured more readily by a Government that does not pretend to be more wedded to doctrine than it is.

In the forefront of the battle

From Mr Neville Sandelson, MP for Hillingdon, Hayes and Uxbridge, and Mr Mike Thomas, MP for Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East.

Sir, Even coming from one so robustly of the "faint hearts" as Mr Denis Healey, his reference as reported (February 14) to "humbly from the faint hearts" who are planning to desert us just as the battle is at its fiercest will be seen by most rational people, let alone historians of the future, as a classic example of conscious hypocrisy. Does one really have to ask Mr Healey where he was when the battles in recent years were raging and the "faint hearts", as he calls us, were doing what we could, in many a bruising affair, to resist the disastrous tide that was overtaking and taking over the Labour Party?

Perhaps for him, during the really decisive years, discretion was the better part of the valour and, as we have seen, he paid a bitter price because of it. If the battle is at its fiercest, that can only be because of the crescendo of panic now felt by Mr Healey and others in the Parliamentary Party at the prospect of final disintegration.

It is no thanks to him that warfare within the party has developed on a wider front. It merely reflects the obvious reality that, for reasons of expediency rather than any earlier sense of principle and conviction, the Labour leadership is at last forced into making a stand.

But the real battles were fought on the field of ideas. That the party was led by a man who was a conspicuous failure. No one would be more esteemed by the whole nation if he were now to throw his considerable intellect and authority behind his natural political allies in the new social democratic movement.

Yours faithfully,
NEVILLE SANDELSOON,
MIKE THOMAS,
House of Commons,
February 14.

Care of ancient buildings

From Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber

Sir, I believe anything that threatens our historic buildings must be resisted, and lack of access to them is deplorable. But I do not entirely share the view that the fact that soldiers on duty in the province could face prosecution for an error of judgment afterwards held to be objectively unreasonable was, at least while I was there, a tremendous impediment to the aggressive attitude required by the security forces in the defeat of terrorism in an internal security situation. The greatest dishonour we do to our troops in Northern Ireland is to equip them for a combat role and then threaten to prosecute them if they use those weapons in a way held subsequently to be unreasonable.

Of course the distinction must be drawn between a soldier faced with an "agony of the moment" situation and the recent conviction of a young officer and his soldiers in connection with a murder committed in South Armagh. That distinction is being made constantly by the DPP for Northern Ireland who has the unenviable task of deciding when to prosecute.

The first move must be to make the test of the section a subjective one and not one of reasonableness. In that case a soldier genuinely believing that his use of force was proper would have nothing to fear if afterwards in the cold light of day a reasonable man would have thought otherwise. But of far greater importance than short-term expediency is the pressing need to provide a system of safeguards for civil liberties. The first place to start is with the soldier with the peace of mind, if one can call it that, necessary to carry out his duty to root out terrorism. Hampering him by the illogical application of

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Using arms in support of civil power

From Mr Stephen Hall-Jones

Sir, The Attorney General's two immediate predecessors in title to that office would not have expressed quite as much horror at the question asked by Mr Dennis Canavan as the present incumbent did on February 9 in the House (Parliamentary report, February 10).

The whole question of the use of force by members of her Majesty's Forces in support of the civil power is a matter of minute detail, and one that tends to leave an impression that some of the terrorists were shot by the SAS (Special Air Service Regiment) in cold blood after they had surrendered. Subsequent developments have not, unfortunately, provided much consolation.

First, the closing speech of prosecuting counsel at that trial, as you reported it, (January 22) appeared to be an attempt to give evidence to a contrary effect, yet we were not told on what basis his comments were made, nor why they were needed. They seemed irrelevant to the charges before the court.

Then you reported on the inquest into the deaths of the other terrorists (February 4 and 5). There, perhaps curiously, no members of the SAS team were called to give oral evidence, although the coroner's sum fit to suggest that the oral evidence of some of the hostages had been embellished or misinterpreted with the passage of time.

The written statements of two of the soldiers were read, but what of the evidence of the others? Some of the statements, as reported, seemed unsatisfactory, for example, if there was as much smoke and confusion as the coroner indicated, why did Soldier B bother to ask a terrorist's name and country? And the same soldier's statement that a terrorist "made some movement with his hand which I considered a direct threat" is vague in the extreme.

The coroner's directions to the jury did not appear, in many respects, to have been in point. Although he rightly pointed out that justifiable homicide using such force as is reasonable in the circumstances in the prevention of a crime, it was inappropriate to say that the jurors should consider the implications to this country if verdicts of unlawful killing were recorded, or to suggest that they should consider whether the SAS acted reasonably in the circumstances, by which phrase he apparently meant what had or might have happened prior to their attack.

That it took the jury almost an hour to reach verdicts is interesting, but was it not apt for the coroner to express his surprise at the time it took them? They had already had more than one substantial hint from him.

Lastly, it was a pity that when the Attorney General was asked whether the SAS had been given immunity from prosecution or orders for summary execution, he did not see fit to answer either question categorically, according to your Parliamentary report (February 9). He may well have been horrified by the questions, but he should still have replied to them.

No doubt the courage and determination of those involved, and many might feel that, morally, what happened when the SAS attacked is justifiable. But if there were any deliberate killings, or if orders were given for summary execution, or any kind of immunity was granted, he would have been a most serious breach of the law as it stands.

No one is above the law, and those cynics, like me, who retain even the faintest doubt in the back of their minds are entitled to be reassured that the fact that this principle was respected in the case in point.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE HARRIS,
24 Elgin Crescent, W11.

Breath test policy

From Mr G. W. R. Terry and Dr P. A. B. Raffie

Sir, As president of the Association of Chief Police Officers and chairman of the Transport Committee of the Medical Commission on Road Safety, we express our concern that much of the debate on the power of the police to require breath tests has been clouded by the use of emotive phrases which do not bear examination, and the failure to compare the committee's proposal with the present law which, in this respect, the Secretary of State seems intent to preserve.

It does not help to use expressions such as "We are not yet ready for random testing in a democratic society" when the fact is that the committee did not recommend random testing, its report specifically states that random testing would be wasteful of resources. Nor does a reference to a democratic society make sense. In this and in most other countries a "breathalyzer" law exists. It cannot be enforced without a power to require a breath test.

The only question is whether to allow the police to use their trained power of observation and their discretion to require a test when they think it appropriate or whether it is possible in any logical manner to limit that discretion by statute. The committee not only recommended that the discretion could not

be fettered but stated that this was fundamental to all their proposals. It simplified the law, increased its deterrent effect, rid the present Act of some of its anomalies and would allow sensible enforcement.

Those who express contrary views do so without contrasting discretionary testing with the present limit of involvement in an accident, a moving traffic offence or a suspicion that the driver has consumed alcohol. These are arbitrary grounds chosen to avoid leaving the matter to the discretion of the police. It ignores the fact that if the police may require a breath test in these circumstances they may not in others, however obvious a candidate for testing a motorist may be. Within those groups many will be innocent, yet subject to being tested, whereas those outside those groups will not be so subject. Who benefits from this?

With the appalling number of casualties due to drink and driving and a steady erosion of the effectiveness of the present law, surely a more logical and reasoned view should prevail. It is not the responsible motorist who need fear the use of these powers. He or she will be the first to benefit if casualties are reduced by keeping the driver sober to excess off the road.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE W. R. TERRY,
ANDREW RAFFIE,
Sussex Police Headquarters,
Malling House,
Lewes,
East Sussex.

the Criminal Law Act 1967 is not the way to achieve it. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
STEPHEN HALL-JONES,
Lamb Building, Temple, E.C.4.

From Mr Bruce Harris
Sir, Your reports of the uncontradicted prosecution evidence given at the recent trial of the surviving Iranian Embassy siege terrorists will have created disquiet in the minds of many since they tended to leave an impression that some of the terrorists were shot by the SAS (Special Air Service Regiment) in cold blood after they had surrendered. Subsequent developments have not, unfortunately, provided much consolation.

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Yours faithfully,
BRUCE HARRIS,
24 Elgin Crescent, W11.

Thomson tenure of 'The Times'

From Lord Chorley and others

Sir, In 1975, we were nominated by our colleagues on the Royal Commission on the Press to undertake a study into the financial situation of Fleet Street. This was published in 1976 as the *Interim Report of the Commission*. Our consultations and investigations gave us a comprehensive insight into the attitudes of trade unions and proprietors.

At that time, we received compelling evidence of the Thomson Organisation's willingness to transmute verbal assurances of good will towards other newspapers into purposeful action.

Now that there is a new proprietor of Times Newspapers, we wish to record our sadness that so little awareness has been shown in public discussions of the debt owed to the Thomson family, and that so much ill-founded criticism has been directed at the Thomson Organisation.

The facts are that our main newspaper of record has been sustained at a heavy cost for 34 years and, when the losses could no longer be carried with any chance of recovery, the paper was sold under arrangements which have fully safeguarded the public interest.

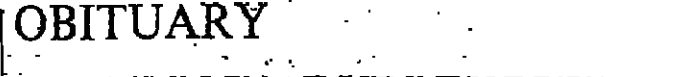
Yours truly,
ROGER CHORLEY,
JOHN HUNT,
O. R. MCGREGOR,
Members of the Royal Commission on the Press,
February 15.

Making a ministry

From Sir John Colville

Sir, I think that in his "Memo to the Labour Party" and the constitutional lesson it contains, Mr Peter Jay (February 2) makes one reprehensible error. He says that if a Labour Prime Minister (or presumably any Prime Minister) lost his majority in the House of Commons he "would still have the option of advising the Queen to send for someone else (including the Conservative leader) or to dissolve Parliament".

People far more experienced than either Mr Jay or me, including the late Prime Minister and Lord Chancellor, have held that an outgoing Prime Minister has no right or power to advise the Sovereign about his successor, unless specifically invited to do so. And since it is the Sovereign's undoubted duty to ensure that the



MR ST JOHN DUDLEY BUXTON

Orthopaedic surgeon in peace and war

St John Dudley Buxton, 55, the well-known orthopaedic surgeon, died on January 6. He was 89.

His death diminishes by yet more the exiguous band of who walked with and to Robert Jones. He qualified from University College Hospital in 1913, and within a year was serving with the

organizing ability had full scope when later he was appointed consulting orthopaedic surgeon of the Middle East Force with the rank of brigadier. The efficient orthopaedic service in this theatre was largely due to his success in persuading others to his way of thinking with the minimal fuss.

He became ill in 1941 and was invalided home, but after

of the Royal Masonic Hospital
to care for wounded officers

of hostilities and was decorated with the Croix de Guerre. In 1918 he joined the staff of Military Hospital at Shepherd's Bush and came under the influence of Robert Jones from whom he learnt his orthopaedic surgery. He was appointed to the post of Senior Lecturer in Orthopaedics at the University of London in 1920 and returned to work in the Emergency Medical Service at Epsom and as regional adviser in 1922. He had been a member of the British Orthopaedic Association almost from the beginning and was elected president in 1944, resigning this office with the outbreak of the war.

his students and trainees he was a kindly but firm task

together they started the orthopaedic unit at King's. It was among the first to offer a daily fracture clinic under the control of the orthopaedic department.

As a teacher he was crisp and precise, and for this reason became a popular lecturer at the medical school but was not so popular with the students of physiology and nursing. He joined the department as a lecturer at the medical school and was a member of the students' club.

His master who never spared himself, and expected his juniors to work with him at all times. In committee he could be stubborn, but he was essentially a kindly man as could best be seen in his handling of patients, especially children, who immediately became his friends and confidants. At the time of his resignation he never forgot his freedom, the kindness and above all the accessibility which he never failed to provide.

He retired from King's in

as director of a well known firm based in the Isle of Wight.

which allowed him to continue working as a visitor to Camp Hill Prison and as vice-chairman of the hospital management committee. For many years he greatly enjoyed his garden and his workshop, but it is as a good doctor, a surgeon and a teacher of surgery that he will chiefly be remembered.

He married Winifred daughter of Picton Warlow. They had a son and a daughter.

ADMIRAL SIR ANGLUS CUNNINGHAM

GRAHAM

miral Sir Angus Cunningham-Graham, KBE, CB, died February 14, aged 87. He was a signal specialist who saw service in two world wars and was 'Flag Officer', and, from 1950 to 1951, Commander Edward Malise Boncunninghame Graham was son of Commander C. E. F. Cunningham-Graham MVO, and his three daughters, Mrs. Margaret W. Bagot and was in 1893. He entered the navy as a naval cadet in 1895, and was promoted to his promotion to captain in December, 1935.

From 1936 to 1938 he was senior naval officer in the Western River, China, and six months before the outbreak of war in 1939 he took command of the signal school at Portsmouth, where he served until 1941.

During the next two years he commanded the cruiser Kent on escort and convoy duties in the North Atlantic, the Baltic, North Russia, and other Home Fleet operations. From 1943 to 1945 he was Commodore of the

1910, was a midshipman on the battleship St Vincent and was promoted to flag rank in January 1945.

He took command of the 10th Cruiser Squadron, with his flag in HMS Birmingham, and later of the 2nd Cruiser Squadron with his flag in HMS Superb. He was promoted to the rank of Admiral Superintendent at Rosyth Dockyard, and from July, 1950, combined this post with that of Flag Officer, Scotland, until August, 1951.

He was appointed CBE in 1949 and was promoted to Admiral in 1951. He was promoted to KBE in 1955. He was Lord Lieutenant of Devonshire from 1955 to 1968, and was a captain in the Royal Company of Archers, the

land. Among his other interests he was vice-president Royal

to staff colleges, and from 1933 was executive officer of the cruiser Cardiff, and later of the Africa Station. She was staff officer (operations and intelligence) in the Command at the time of

National Lifeboat Institution, and a vice-president of the National Trust for Scotland.

In 1924 she married Mr. Patricia, daughter of Colonel Lionel Hambury, CMG and they had a son and a daughter.

MISS APHRA HARGROVE

Ms. Mary Applebey writes: "I may be said if there were recognition given to the life of Captain Hargrove, whose age at the time of the 90 was reported in *The Times* week."

She was the last of the band devoted workers who served Dame Evelyn Fox at the Central Welfare between the and who, under her leadership, revolutionized service for the mentally handicapped in this country. It is a credit to her that the mental handicapped would still lead lives, their latent capacities undeveloped, their sweet without return. But for there would have been Mental Deficiency Act in 1913, the first, to the fully qualified teachers, and social workers and no organizations to share burdens.

A band of pioneers were the today's social workers who are often unconscious of a little scornful

it a privilege to serve them and to give from the richness of their own experience to those less fortunate than herself.

To her chosen commitment she brought gifts of intellect and humility: she was a Franciscan Tertiary and lived by a rule of simplicity which seemed to her natural, but which humbled her friends.

She was tough, too tough in argument and tough in judgments which preserved into extreme old age the strict precepts of her upbringing.

From Dame Evelyn she had learned the best service to the mentally handicapped is achieved only by knowing better than any bureaucrat what are the unanswerable arguments for better services. She pursued her objectives at the National Association for long after Dame Evelyn had left the battle, and those of us who worked with her towards the end knew that in this small, feeble woman, with the fierce blue eyes and the grey hair, there continued to burn

... did not "identify steady flame of devotion to the
her clients", as the cause to which she had given

jargon has it, but felt her life.

SIR ANDREW SHONFIELD

Professor R. C. O. Matthews

your admirable obituary of Andrew Shonfield, no member as made of his Chairmanship of the Social Science Council between 1969 and 1971. When he took up their post, the statement that people would perhaps, have thought of him as an administrator. But played from the first not in breadth of vision about the aims of the SSRC but also in judgment of people and policy for decision that won his respect.

which was achieved during the years at State House, at least the establishment of relations with the Research Councils in the natural sciences, the most important contribu-

tion, however, was his handling of the political problems that beset public support for the social sciences in a way that does not affect other branches of science and learning.

The SSRC was set up in 1965 under a Labour government, at a time when the social sciences enjoyed high esteem from politicians and public alike. Andrew Shonfield's task was to ensure the survival of the organisation and, most important, the political impartiality of public funding of the social sciences under a new government that was inclined to view social scientists with suspicion verging on hostility. His outstanding success was to ensure that the result of his tact, his firmness, and above all his own manifest integrity.

Mr Sydney Smith, CBE, who died on February 13 at the age of 80, was chairman of the East Midlands Gas Board from 1952 to 1956 and of Scottish Gas Board from 1956 to 1965.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Why government borrowing is going adrift, page 17

CCA - the case for evolution, not revolution, page 16

Stock markets
FT Ind 493.2
FT Gilt 69.01

Sterling
\$2.2655
Index 103.8

Dollar
Index 101.0
DM 2.2195

Gold
\$493.50

Money
3 mth sterling 134-135
3 mth Euro \$ 183-184
6 mth Euro \$ 184-185
Friday's close

EEC plans fund of £3,650m to offset members' oil import costs

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, Feb 15

EEC finance ministers hope to be able to agree tomorrow a new £3,650m loan facility to help member states with balance of payments deficits caused by the increasing costs of imported oil.

Under the scheme, the European Commission would be empowered, on behalf of the EEC, to raise loans either directly from the oil-producing countries themselves or on the international capital markets for relending to those member states in need.

The facility would be essentially an enlarged and amended version of a similar recycling operation mounted in 1975 at the time of the first oil price crisis. Italy and the Republic of Ireland received help under the earlier scheme.

Two points remain to be solved. The first is the total amount available. The sum proposed being considered too high by West Germany. The second is the voting procedure to be used by the Council of Ministers in deciding whether to grant loans and what conditions to attach to them.

The Commission has proposed that such decisions should be taken by a simple majority vote, but most member states, including Britain, appear to favour the unanimity rule, which gives each state the power of veto to any one of them.

A loan could be advanced as a single sum or by instalments, in which case instalments could be withheld if the borrowing country failed to meet the economic policy conditions laid down when the loan was granted.

The European Commission would monitor the economic policy of the country concerned.

Earthquake fund

The Italian cabinet will seek parliamentary approval for a special levy of 5 per cent of public income to provide £1.5bn to help rebuild Italy's devastated regions devastated by the November earthquake. Government officials said. A year reconstruction programme will cost 8,000,000m (£3,394m) according to government estimates.

Tax cuts delayed

President Reagan has decided to delay Congress to make a per cent income tax reduction effective on July 1 instead retroactive to the beginning of the year.

Nigeria contracts

Five new contracts amounting to £20m have been won by Woodrow of Nigeria, a Nigerian firm, to build a home for Alimna, the capital of Niger State, and the asphalt-concrete overlay of the 117-kilometre road linking Kano and Jibia in the Kano and Jibia States, worth £5.9m.

Bi Tokyo talks

Sir Raymond Penock, president of the Confederation of British Industry, today begins three day visit to Tokyo. He will have talks with Japanese employers' organisations and government ministers on ways of reducing the imbalance of trade.

Teel trigger prices

The United States Department of Commerce said steel trigger prices for the second quarter of 1981 will be 4.4 per cent above the first quarter.

Canadian loan

A senior official in Canada's duty ministry said he could not confirm or deny a report that a Federal cabinet minister has approved a \$140m (£50m) loan guarantee for Chrysler Canada.

Redential in Tokyo

Sony-Prudential Life Assurance, a joint venture between Sony Corporation and Prudential Assurance, will start business in Tokyo in April after formal approval by Japan's finance ministry.

IS car slump

America's domestic car market slump continued this month, with sales falling 8 per cent in the first 10 days of February to 135,054 cars.

Ivory Coast oil

Ivory Coast could become a significant oil producer by 1983 and a net oil exporter by 1985.

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Opec to provide £36m for poorest Unctad countries

From Alan MacGregor, Geneva, February 15

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) is to provide \$83.4m (£36m) to meet the 35 poorest countries' share of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) common fund for commodities.

This was indicated by a fund official on Friday at the end of the week-long meeting of the fund's preparatory committee, which 93 countries attended.

Unctad and developing nations delegates underlined the need for governments to speed up the process of signing and ratifying the fund agreement.

Since it opened for signature on October 1 only 24 governments representing 47 per cent of the \$470m needed in directly contributed capital have signed—with no ratification so far.

The agreement can come into force only when it has been ratified by 90 countries representing at least two thirds of the capital required for the first account. The target for this is March 1982.

Signatories include the United States, United Kingdom, France, Italy and Japan. The Opec contribution will bring promised direct contributions up to the two thirds mark.

Rubber, cocoa, sugar and tin are potential early users of the fund which is the basis of Unctad's projected integrated programme to facilitate world trade in 18 basic commodities.

Clothing workers to lobby MPs

By Our Industrial Staff

Several hundred clothing workers from all parts of Britain will lobby MPs today in an attempt to gain support for urgent measures to save the estimated 100,000 jobs in the industry.

The National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers claims that this number of jobs will be lost during 1981.

The lobby, which is being sponsored by the Trades Union Congress, will include workers from the textiles and footwear industries.

Last month clothing unions and employers' leaders travelled to Brussels to press their case for improved protection against cheap imports which they claim are an important cause of their present problems.

Meanwhile, further evidence of the far-reaching changes taking place in the textile and clothing industries is provided by the annual report of the Oldham and District Textile Employers Association, which covers the heartland of these once-powerful industries.

The report, published today, shows that 10 of the 52 mills in membership closed, while employment fell by 3,000, almost a third.

The Oldham office of the association now covers an area represented by six local associations as recently as 1959.

THE POUND

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
Bank of England	Bank of England	Bank of England	Bank of England
Bank of Scotland	Bank of Scotland	Bank of Scotland	Bank of Scotland
Bank of Ireland	Bank of Ireland	Bank of Ireland	Bank of Ireland
Bank of Wales	Bank of Wales	Bank of Wales	Bank of Wales
Bank of Northern Ireland	Bank of Northern Ireland	Bank of Northern Ireland	Bank of Northern Ireland
Bank of Cyprus	Bank of Cyprus	Bank of Cyprus	Bank of Cyprus
Bank of Greece	Bank of Greece	Bank of Greece	Bank of Greece
Bank of Spain	Bank of Spain	Bank of Spain	Bank of Spain
Bank of Portugal	Bank of Portugal	Bank of Portugal	Bank of Portugal
Bank of France	Bank of France	Bank of France	Bank of France
Bank of Germany	Bank of Germany	Bank of Germany	Bank of Germany
Bank of Italy	Bank of Italy	Bank of Italy	Bank of Italy
Bank of Netherlands	Bank of Netherlands	Bank of Netherlands	Bank of Netherlands
Bank of Belgium	Bank of Belgium	Bank of Belgium	Bank of Belgium
Bank of Luxembourg	Bank of Luxembourg	Bank of Luxembourg	Bank of Luxembourg
Bank of Switzerland	Bank of Switzerland	Bank of Switzerland	Bank of Switzerland
Bank of Austria	Bank of Austria	Bank of Austria	Bank of Austria
Bank of Czech Republic	Bank of Czech Republic	Bank of Czech Republic	Bank of Czech Republic
Bank of Slovakia	Bank of Slovakia	Bank of Slovakia	Bank of Slovakia
Bank of Hungary	Bank of Hungary	Bank of Hungary	Bank of Hungary
Bank of Poland	Bank of Poland	Bank of Poland	Bank of Poland
Bank of Yugoslavia	Bank of Yugoslavia	Bank of Yugoslavia	Bank of Yugoslavia
Bank of Bulgaria	Bank of Bulgaria	Bank of Bulgaria	Bank of Bulgaria
Bank of Romania	Bank of Romania	Bank of Romania	Bank of Romania
Bank of USSR	Bank of USSR	Bank of USSR	Bank of USSR
Bank of China	Bank of China	Bank of China	Bank of China
Bank of Japan	Bank of Japan	Bank of Japan	Bank of Japan
Bank of Korea	Bank of Korea	Bank of Korea	Bank of Korea
Bank of Taiwan	Bank of Taiwan	Bank of Taiwan	Bank of Taiwan
Bank of Hong Kong	Bank of Hong Kong	Bank of Hong Kong	Bank of Hong Kong
Bank of Singapore	Bank of Singapore	Bank of Singapore	Bank of Singapore
Bank of Malaysia	Bank of Malaysia	Bank of Malaysia	Bank of Malaysia
Bank of Indonesia	Bank of Indonesia	Bank of Indonesia	Bank of Indonesia
Bank of Philippines	Bank of Philippines	Bank of Philippines	Bank of Philippines
Bank of Thailand	Bank of Thailand	Bank of Thailand	Bank of Thailand
Bank of Vietnam	Bank of Vietnam	Bank of Vietnam	Bank of Vietnam
Bank of Laos	Bank of Laos	Bank of Laos	Bank of Laos
Bank of Cambodia	Bank of Cambodia	Bank of Cambodia	Bank of Cambodia
Bank of Myanmar	Bank of Myanmar	Bank of Myanmar	Bank of Myanmar
Bank of Brunei	Bank of Brunei	Bank of Brunei	Bank of Brunei
Bank of East Timor	Bank of East Timor	Bank of East Timor	Bank of East Timor
Bank of Timor-Leste	Bank of Timor-Leste	Bank of Timor-Leste	Bank of Timor-Leste
Bank of Papua New Guinea	Bank of Papua New Guinea	Bank of Papua New Guinea	Bank of Papua New Guinea
Bank of Solomon Islands	Bank of Solomon Islands	Bank of Solomon Islands	Bank of Solomon Islands
Bank of Vanuatu	Bank of Vanuatu	Bank of Vanuatu	Bank of Vanuatu
Bank of Fiji	Bank of Fiji	Bank of Fiji	Bank of Fiji
Bank of Tonga	Bank of Tonga	Bank of Tonga	Bank of Tonga
Bank of Samoa	Bank of Samoa	Bank of Samoa	Bank of Samoa
Bank of Kiribati	Bank of Kiribati	Bank of Kiribati	Bank of Kiribati
Bank of Tuvalu	Bank of Tuvalu	Bank of Tuvalu	Bank of Tuvalu
Bank of Nauru	Bank of Nauru	Bank of Nauru	Bank of Nauru
Bank of Marshall Islands	Bank of Marshall Islands	Bank of Marshall Islands	Bank of Marshall Islands
Bank of Micronesia	Bank of Micronesia	Bank of Micronesia	Bank of Micronesia
Bank of Palau	Bank of Palau	Bank of Palau	Bank of Palau
Bank of Christmas Island	Bank of Christmas Island	Bank of Christmas Island	Bank of Christmas Island
Bank of Cook Islands	Bank of Cook Islands	Bank of Cook Islands	Bank of Cook Islands
Bank of Niue	Bank of Niue	Bank of Niue	Bank of Niue
Bank of Tokelau	Bank of Tokelau	Bank of Tokelau	Bank of Tokelau
Bank of Wallis and Futuna	Bank of Wallis and Futuna	Bank of Wallis and Futuna	Bank of Wallis and Futuna
Bank of French Polynesia	Bank of French Polynesia	Bank of French Polynesia	Bank of French Polynesia
Bank of New Caledonia	Bank of New Caledonia	Bank of New Caledonia	Bank of New Caledonia
Bank of French Guiana	Bank of French Guiana	Bank of French Guiana	Bank of French Guiana
Bank of Martinique	Bank of Martinique	Bank of Martinique	Bank of Martinique
Bank of Guadeloupe	Bank of Guadeloupe	Bank of Guadeloupe	Bank of Guadeloupe
Bank of Saint Martin	Bank of Saint Martin	Bank of Saint Martin	Bank of Saint Martin
Bank of Saint Pierre and Miquelon	Bank of Saint Pierre and Miquelon	Bank of Saint Pierre and Miquelon	Bank of Saint Pierre and Miquelon
Bank of Overseas Territories	Bank of Overseas Territories	Bank of Overseas Territories	Bank of Overseas Territories

Pact may end engineers' council deadlock

By Derek Harris

A new initiative involving the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) and the four largest engineering institutions is close to breaking the deadlock over the launching of the Engineering Council, the Government's new "watchdog" body for engineering.

Changes to the draft charter for the new council have been drawn up which give more recognition to the role of the institutions and an agreed paper has gone to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry.

Initial talks on the changes have already taken place at the Department of Industry with the four institutions covering civil, mechanical, electrical and chemical engineering. The four institutions have agreed to support the initiative.

The initiative has brought the best

hope yet of ending the stalemate between the department and the 16 institutions, including the main four which make up the Council of Engineering Institutions (CEI).

The CEI and all the institutions had earlier joined in rejecting the department's draft charter for the new body, with the CEI holding a trump card in being the only body at present empowered to award the title of Chartered Engineer (C Eng). The department wants that power to be ceded to the new council which would take over much of the present role of the CEI.

It remains to be seen whether the four main institutions can persuade the CEI as a whole to support a changed charter, although there is always a possibility of resignations by the four and a consequent drop in the CEI's already slim income.

For the CEI to give up awarding the C Eng title, a meeting of its total engineering membership would have to agree by two thirds majority to charter changes.

If C Eng stayed with the CEI there are two possible options. One would be for the new council to adopt a new title—Registered Engineer, was suggested in the Finiston report on engineering—and the other would be for the institutions' individual variations of the Chartered Engineer title to be used, as in Chartered Electrical Engineer.

But Sir Keith, who previously appeared to be ready to wash his hands of the whole affair, may now be prepared to go ahead with the proposed Engineering Council without powers over the C Eng title.

The changes being put forward by

the EEF and the four institutions give greater assurances of institutional involvement in the new body. But the most important change that membership of the institution would be regarded as the preferred route for anybody going on a new engineers' register.

Nor would direct registration with the new council, possible under a "conscience" clause, be allowed to be a cheaper alternative.

If the new initiative runs into difficulties, the Conservative group of trade unionists has asked to meet Sir Keith to put forward a plan drafted by Mr John Kapp, a consultant engineer who is a prominent member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers. This plan would rely on changes to the CEI itself, including making it independent of direct funding by institutions.

Lorho may employ rare time-limit tactic in takeover move for House of Fraser

By Philip Robinson

Lorho's formal document offering £150m for the House of Fraser, due at noon today, could contain a special and rarely-used takeover tactic which would give Fraser shareholders just 21 days to accept the £150m share bid.

If it does, some City financial institutions reckon that Lorho will get control of Britain's biggest department store group, which owns Harrods.

Usually a bid runs to a first closing date after which the level of acceptance is disclosed, and then remains open for a further 14 days to allow more acceptances to come in. No offer can run for more than 60 days without the permission of the Takeover Panel.

The big institutions, traditionally late acceptors of a

takeover offer, normally use the first acceptance date to gauge the feeling among other shareholders and still have a fortnight during which to accept for themselves.

But the time clause would allow no one to test the temperature before deciding what to do. And in that case, at least one large institutional fund manager thinks Lorho will win.

It has always been possible that Lorho will walk into the stock market after its own shareholders' meeting approves the deal on March 4, and try to buy the 20 per cent it needs to gain control of Fraser.

But this could mean it will have to pay a large premium in the market over its own offer price and is then bound by the

takeover rules to make a general offer at the highest price paid for shares in the market.

A time limit could circumvent the need to raise the offer which some say could be as high as 180p.

The time clause is normally used in takeovers involving smaller companies where the predator wishes to retain the stock exchange quotation of the company it is buying. It is rarely used in a deal the size of the takeover of Fraser.

Mr Graham Walsh, director-general of the Takeover Panel, says no approval is needed from the panel to impose this clause, but the offer document must make it clear that the bid will not be extended under any circumstances beyond the 21-day period.

Mr Walsh declined to reveal whether any big company had recently asked the panel's view on such a condition. S. G. Warburg, Fraser's merchant bank advisers, said: "We are aware of this possibility but we will have to wait for the document."

There are already reports that a leading Scottish stockbroker has recommended Fraser's private shareholders to sell half their shares in the stock market.

Meanwhile, Sir Hugh Fraser, deposed chairman, said in the presence of his solicitor at the weekend that he was likely to make a second statement to shareholders in about a fortnight, probably after release of the formal Fraser board defence document.

NEDO studying ways of boosting export contracts for Britain

By John Huxley

A six month investigation into how British companies can improve their performance in winning large overseas construction contracts is being prepared for the National Economic Development Office.

It is being carried out by Sir Albert (Archie) Lamb, Britain's former Ambassador to Norway, who was appointed by the building and civil engineering economic development committees to head an exports drive.

Sir Archie will be looking at three particular areas in which British shortcomings have been cited as a reason for its failure to win a larger share of overseas work. The criticized areas are project leadership, the role of the nationalized industries, and financial support, both from the Government and the City.

Although Sir Archie will not attempt to act as a catalyst for a joint effort, it is hoped he will suggest ways in which the traditional fragmentation of the British effort can be remedied.

His work is one of a number of initiatives being undertaken by the committees in an attempt

new orders, especially for public clients, slumped alarmingly in 1980.

Last week, members of the building committee had a stormy meeting with Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, who was able to offer little prospect of an upturn in orders paid for from the public purse.

However, he was hopeful that there would be a revival in the depressed house building market, with the number of starts increasing by as much as 20 per cent over the next 12 months.

Meanwhile, two reports published today suggest that, while larger construction companies are weathering the recession successfully, they are often doing poorly in taking contracts at non-existent margins. They have also been able to pick up work by pushing down market for smaller contractors.

Enterprise zones under scrutiny

By Peter Hill

Detailed studies into the impact of enterprise zones in boosting industrial activity have been commissioned by the Government. It will be conducted by experts commissioned by the Department of the Environment over three years.

The consultants have been asked to identify which of the package of incentives being offered to companies setting up in the new zones has been the main influence.

Establishment of the zones was announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor, in his March Budget last year. They are seen by the Government as an experimental approach.

Since then 11 possible zones have been identified and are now the subject of discussion between the local authorities and the Department of the Environment. Possible sites include the lower Swansea Valley; Clydebank; Corby, Northamptonshire; Dudley, West Midlands; Hartlepool, Cleveland and the Isle of Dogs in London's docklands.

Monitoring of the enterprise zone experiment is being coordinated by Roger Tym and Partners, urban and land economists, working with three other concerns.

Companies which establish operations in enterprise zones will benefit from relaxation of planning requirements, exemptions from development land tax rates and 100 per cent capital allowances for industrial and commercial properties.

Couriers seek right to carry overseas letters

By Patricia Tisdall

Independent courier companies are lobbying for the right to carry letters within the United Kingdom or to or from overseas, at present prohibited under the Post Office monopoly.

They want a new sub-section inserted in clause 64 of the postal section of the Telecommunications Bill which is expected to be discussed in committee this week.

Representation has been made to Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, by the Association of International Air

Courier Services and by individual companies.

Mr Baker is understood to be resisting the proposal on the grounds that it could mean that the statute would have to be amended each time that conditions altered.

The couriers have been told that the Government would prefer to exclude carriers of all "time sensitive" letters through an Order in Parliament under clause 66 of the Bill. This is the clause which permits the Secretary of State to suspend the Post Office monopoly.

In a statement on the monopoly last July, Sir Keith Joseph,

the Secretary of State for Industry, said that he intended to relax it to allow private operators to carry time sensitive or valuable mail provided they charged a high minimum fee which he considered should be initially fixed at a £1.

The courier companies, however, fear that their future expansion may be vulnerable to political changes as the order could be rescinded by a resolution of either House of Parliament.

International Messengers, one of the largest of the British-owned courier companies, has already acted on the promise

Boeing could lose sales to Airbus consortium if loans are reduced

Export-Import Bank faces cuts in funding

The White House Office of Management and Budget has proposed large cuts in the funding of the United States Export-Import Bank, although it has said in a Cabinet paper that because of this the Boeing Corporation could lose sales to the European Airbus consortium.

All preliminary loan commitments may have to be reviewed and Mr Art Obester, a bank representative, said that one of the very biggest loans now pending for final authorization concerned \$290m (£126.9m) that Boeing had sought to ensure that Ansett Airlines, the Australian company of which Mr Rupert Murdoch is a director, bought its aircraft rather than the European Airbus A300.

The Cabinet is believed to have approved the Budget Office's plans to cut lending in the present fiscal year by \$94m to \$4,500m and cut special discount loans from \$400m to \$200m.

Even bigger cuts have been approved for the next fiscal year, including full elimination of discount and guaranteed loan programmes.

Mr Obester admitted that the proposed lending cuts would create difficulties as the bank had already committed \$2,200m this year. It had expected bigger funding, and had already made preliminary commitments of \$7,200m this year.

The bank provided a low rate of interest on the Ansett deal to ensure a Boeing sale,

causing controversy, but the Budget Office has now declared forcefully that there is no need for the United States to provide loan subsidies.

If the new chairman of the bank, who has not yet been named by the White House, but who is expected to be Mr William Middendorf, a friend of President Reagan, shares the Administration's view, bank loans with low interest rates may be the first to be denied final authorization.

Alternatively, the bank might seek to reduce all preliminary commitments. Ansett sought final loan authorization in December and Mr Obester said that a board decision was likely within four to six weeks.

The bank's board has had a negligible influence on the Cabinet decision to curb the bank's activities, as a new chairman has not yet been appointed and Mr John Moore, the incumbent, is a close friend of former President Carter with no White House power now.

The Budget Office said in its Cabinet paper that the damage done to United States business by cutting bank funding would not be great.

It did stress, however, that "the Boeing Corporation, which consumes the lion's share of the 42 per cent of Export-Import Bank direct loans that support aircraft sales, might lose sales to those instances

(roughly 20 to 30 per cent of Bank-Boeing activity) where Boeing competes head to head with subsidized foreign producers".

The paper said that subsidies did not really help exports but made no mention of the value of United States currency devaluations to American export growth, and suggested that the free enterprise system's energies were responsible for foreign sales growth.

The United States had a balance of payments surplus while all other industrial nations had deficits. United States export growth had been 7.6 per cent each year since 1973, while the growth of countries such as France, which subsidized exports heavily had been much less.

"The United States enters the 1980s in far better shape, in terms of international trade, than any of our competitors whose export policies have been held up as a model for United States action by those supporting continued high levels of Export-Import Bank activity", it said.

The Boeing Corporation's executives are expected to lobby hard in the Congress in opposition to the proposed bank cuts. Mr Obester said that hearings on the bank's activities were likely in the next month, and discussion of controversial loans might feature prominently in hearings to confirm a new bank chairman.

Anglia to sell airtime for both radio and television

By Our Industrial Staff

The selling of airtime for both commercial television and radio may be on the brink of its biggest reorganization in a decade.

Anglia Television, the Norwich-based commercial group, is to set up its own marketing and sales subsidiary which will sell airtime for the station and other media.

TSW, which won the south of England television franchise from Southern, is understood to be considering setting up an airtime selling subsidiary along the lines of the Anglia scheme, and a number of other companies may follow.

Anglia's plans have not yet been made public, but there is speculation that the company is planning a regional sales system for commercial radio, the new Fourth Channel, and breakfast television.

It is also expected to look at the implications of a new commercial network beamed into the United Kingdom by satellite from Europe.

At the moment television and radio sales are conducted separately. Television com-

panies deal with advertisers individually except in two cases, the STAGS company which handles advertising for both radio and television, and Gannett, and the joint agreement between Yorkshire Television and Tyne Tees, both owned by Trident, on selling.

Local radio stations have opted to channel national sales through one of three national agencies.

But in a move which could have long-term repercussions for the industry, the STAGS scheme has been scrapped.

The possibility of a general sales facility for national advertisers interested in local radio but sold through regional television companies is thought to have attracted a number of radio stations.

It would also go some way towards stemming recent criticism from some large advertising agencies which have been unhappy with the way commercial radio is sold.

One constant complaint from national advertising agencies is that commercial radio lacks any real system of regional flexibility for advertisers.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

MLR will be cut, but by how much?

Since the Government seems to have decided to hold back any further cut in interest rates until the Budget, money markets and the gilt-edged market are going to have to be patient. Nevertheless, the main point of speculation in the run-up to the Budget on March 10 is going to be the extent of the likely cut in minimum lending rate—1 per cent or 2 per cent?

The Government could go straight for a per cent cut, even if that means no further reduction for several months. With the underlying rate of inflation already well into single figures, the cost of borrowing is excessively high in real terms for this particular point in the economic cycle.

On the other hand the authorities very rarely prefer smaller and more frequent cuts in MLR to keep investors' appetites whetted in the gilt-edged market. Judging by recent experience, the funding requirement in the second quarter of the new financial year will be quite heavy, particularly if the Government is not to see its second attempt at monetary control move off to a shaky start.

Reducing MLR more slowly than one might otherwise do simply for the sake of limiting gilt yields, however, is a less than satisfactory strategy. If necessary the Government should accept a steeper yield curve and be prepared to be more flexible and aggressive in its marketing of gilts. sterling shows any further signs of weakness, it will have no choice in the matter.

leaving banks after the party

Meanwhile, clearing bank shares have been usually depressed just ahead of the 1980 results season. In spite of a small rise earlier last week they stand close to a year's "low" relative to the rest of the market.

This is not simply because results are expected to be poor. That much has already been discounted. It is more a case of "ebbing about the renewed tax on dividend" profits and sombre mutterings about the potential for this year. On the other score the auguries are none too bright. All this is reflected in the analysis of Quilter, Hilton Goddison's analysts, far and away the most pessimistic both in the short and long-term. At the other end of the scale Greenwell's people commend aggressive buying. James Capel is one of the pessimists but are still in on the shares because in the longer term they see good prospects for the sector. far there has not been much of a two-way with most institutional investors staying the sidelines waiting for the figures and, as important, the Budget.

piralling bad debts which appeared in shock interim results are likely to persist in the second half. Business conditions have

aggravated by de-stocking, beer output tumbled by 7.6 per cent in the last eight months of 1980 and the brewers expect an 8.5 per cent drop in the present fiscal year.

Expansion in the seventies, particularly in larger capacity, was based on projections of existing growth rates and the present overcapacity—worst in ale production—and has already led to brewery closures with Allied Breweries last week announcing the shut-down of its strike-hit Ansell's brewery in Birmingham.

With plenty of spare capacity for higher lager production which is expected to continue rising from around 30 to nearer 40 per cent of the total market, it is hard to see any new greenfield-site breweries like Whitbread's Magor or Courage's Reading plant being built for many years to come and indeed capital investment has been trimmed back by the industry.

Until duty increases in the Budget of perhaps 2p to 3p are out of the way and the brewers have reported on a miserable winter, the sector is unlikely to show any sustained improvement. However dividends still look safe (though Allied could prove an exception if the Ansell's closure leads to more industrial relations problems) and brewery results should compare reasonably well with other industries even though profits will be lower.

Thereafter the big question is what happens to beer consumption. No one expects a return to the late forties and fifties when consumption fell by over a quarter in 13 years. But nor will there be a sharp recovery: the industry is forecasting a static 1981, and while a hot summer would come to the rescue, the shares are best left alone on the short to medium view.

Thus Midland will have been harder hit than Barclays which benefited from its international spread and where buoyant business conditions in South Africa must have made an important contribution.

National Westminster is well spread internationally, but its strength lies more in wholesale banking and the recent lacklustre results from the National Bank of North America do not auger well. Lloyds Bank will be benefiting from its international business but probably to a far lesser extent than Barclays.

For this year—leaving aside any possible horrors in the Budget—the outlook on profits cannot be good. Costs will rise less fast, but this is likely to be more than offset by other factors.

Lower interest rates will probably lead to wider margins but this is not likely to be enough to keep up profitability. Then loan demand is likely to be well down.

But if sterling falls the overseas contribution will be greater and hire purchase and leasing subsidiaries will benefit from lower interest rates.

Even though yields remain relatively high ranging from 6 to nearly 9 per cent—and will go higher still—and the p/e ratios are low—below 5 on average—the shares are unlikely to outperform the market for the year as a whole though there may well be bright moments—for example, if the Budget excludes special tax provisions.

Brewers After two decades of growth...

Once favoured for their defensive qualities, brewery shares have underperformed the stock market average by 18 per cent showing scarcely a spark of life since the majors reported on the summer season around November.

This dramatic downrating is even more remarkable considering that unlike many areas of industry, profits had not fallen sharply and dividends were held or increased.

What is recognized is that brewers have reached the end of an era. After two decades of growth in which beer consumption rose at a compound rate of over 2½ per cent a year, the tide turned last May as consumers cut back sharply on beer drinking which for most of last year was rising in price much faster than other consumer products.

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New York

Quality Books Inc., a small publishing house near Chicago, decided three years ago that it was time to get a computer to run its business. But automation did not have quite the effect that the people at Quality expected.

A year after the computer had been installed the company was operating with three times as many office staff and working 18 hours a day instead of eight and seven days a week instead of five. When it was forced to hire temporary typists to catch up on invoices which had not been sent out for seven weeks, it turned its computer off and began to use its manufacturer.

"After a year we couldn't take it any more and they couldn't fix it," reads Mr. Anthony Leimer, Quality's general manager. "We were getting further and further behind with our high speed computer."

Quality Books experience is not unique—neither is the remedy it is seeking. The company is one of a growing number of small American businesses which, by taking their computer suppliers to court.

"Computer litigation is the fastest growing segment of the computer business," says Mr. Dick Brandon, a New York attorney. "I estimate that there are more than 500 computer cases working their way through the American legal system, compared with 50 six years ago. By 1985, he predicts, the figure will have risen to 5,000."

Several factors are behind this surge of legal activity. Computers have only recently reached small businesses in large numbers. Because these companies cannot absorb losses as easily as larger corporations, they have no choice but to sue when a machine in which they have invested thousands of dollars does not meet their expectations.

Also, many small businesses are so bemused by the mystique which surrounds computers that they fail to apply the same standards to buying computer equipment that they would to other areas of their business.

"Too many people are awed by the whole thing," says Mr. Joseph Anier, president of a Florida consultancy called International Computer Negotiations. "They just go ahead and sign a form of agreement that doesn't protect them."

Mr. Robert Thonen, president of Wheeling, Hearing, Co., a small heating and air conditioning company in West Virginia, bought his first computer from a leading manufacturer eight years ago. He claims that he is still trying to recover from his mistake. His computer had ended up costing \$132,000 (about £40,000) instead of the \$14,000 that he had expected. Most of the surplus came from building a new room for the machine—something that he says salesmen told him would not be necessary.

Mr. Thonen says that the computer constantly churned out incorrect invoices and bills. Now it is sitting in his back room, while he awaits the start of a case in which he is alleging that the computer was

Beware—computer at work

Small businessmen are so bemused by the mystique that surrounds computers that they fail to apply the same standards to buying equipment that they would to other areas of their operations?

responsible for a drop in turnover from \$834,000 to \$410,000 in a year and a half.

He is suing the manufacturer (which he denies the charges against it) for \$25m in actual damages and nearly \$30m in punitive damages.

"We're back to the way we were with pencil sharpener, pencil and pad," he says, "and as far as that particular computer goes it is about a 100 years faster and a lot more accurate."

The fact that businessmen may be unwary buyers is not the only reason why they run into trouble with their computers. Experts believe that in many cases computer companies take advantage of the customer's lack of knowledge to sell them a computer that is too small or in some other way unsuitable for the work required.

Mr. Arthur Goodman alleges that this is what happened when he bought a computer to automate the book-keeping at his telephone answering company in Manhattan. "No way in the world was the particular machine that I was sold going to do the job that I had described to the company before I bought it," he says.

Mr. Goodman claims that when he bought the computer, the manufacturer told him that

it would have him money. "When it came down to it, it not only didn't save me money, but suddenly I had four people working on billing instead of three and it was taking 12 to 14 days to get the bills out instead of ten."

Cases such as this, which may or may not have involved some sort of misrepresentation, have prompted lawyers to attempt to get the notion of computer malpractice—similar to legal and medical malpractice—accepted in court. "Computer professionals undertake to do a job, but in so doing they often do not act in a responsible manner," according to Mr. Thomas Christy, a New Hampshire lawyer who handles only computer cases.

Once lawyers overcome their two or three person rounding computers, says Mr. Christy, they find "that traditional common law is more than adequate to afford remedies to aggrieved users."

Indeed, some cases have already been decided in favour of the small computer user. A judge's court in New Jersey recently found in favour of Charles Systems Inc., when that company alleged that the computer it had bought from NCR failed entirely to do what it

had been bought to do. An appellate court is still determining the amount of damages to be awarded. But the company's lawyer believes that the award will be significantly more than the \$40,000 which the company paid for the machine.

Such decisions lead lawyers who practise computer law to believe that, as more cases are tried, and the limits of the law are stretched to include new technological computer companies will find more constraints on their business practices than they have in the past. "We are looking at a situation that is going to be devastating to computer vendors," says Mr. Barrett Kalb, the attorney for Charles Systems.

Computer companies themselves do not seem to be particularly worried by this prospect. The market leader, International Business Machines, says that it has not noticed any increase in the number of cases brought by small users. A spokesman described the number of such cases against the company as "so small as to be insignificant."

Lawyers at NCR took a similar position, noting that "the United States is a very litigious country."

The computer companies are in a strong position. It has small computer sellers more than it hurts the computer companies to be sued.

Charles, for instance, has on Mr. Kalb's estimate spent \$100,000 on its case and has yet to see a penny in return. What is more, even the most badly hurt computer user comes back to computers sooner or later.

Quality Books is using a computer through a time-sharing service. Mr. Goodman has already bought another system and Mr. Thonen expects to buy another computer as soon as his company recovers financially from the impact of the first.

David Blake

Why government borrowing is going adrift

The Treasury looks like getting its sums wrong to the tune of nearly £5,000m this year in its estimate of public borrowing. This is not much more than the amount of borrowing down, because the figures are turning out much higher than forecast last year.

But even more disturbing is the cause of this mistake. For it is now clear that it is excess expenditure which is largely to blame for the extra borrowing and much of this extra spending is not simply the financing of unemployment costs. The recession is putting the system for controlling spending of all kinds under severe strain.

The volume of spending was expected to fall this year, not rise. In November, the Chancellor said that public borrowing would be £11,500m not £8,500m and that more than £1,500m of this would be caused by the recession being deeper than expected. It is now clear that the present estimates for this year's borrowing are nearer £13,000m and that only a small amount of the shortfall is accounted for by a drop in tax receipts (from indirect taxes).

If we make allowances for the recessionary effects that the Chancellor spoke of in November and make a further adjustment for lost tax revenue, it looks likely that there may be £2,000m, or slightly more, of spending above government plans which is not explained by the recession in the conventional sense.

How has this happened at a time when there is a system of cash limits designed to keep spending down? One answer to this question is that much spending by the public sector is not subjected to cash limits. There are not much more than 100 which fit into this category.

The classic example of the first kind is unemployment pay, where no cash limit can be set because the amount of spending is not under the Government's control. It has to spend enough to meet the demand which in turn is determined by the level of unemployment. Benefits generally escape the cash limit net and have risen more sharply than expected because the recession has been worse than expected.

Although there might be criticism about the assumptions which were used in drawing up the Treasury's forecast at the time of the Budget, there is no reasonable way to avoid this sort of problem. Extra spending of this kind would be bound to occur under any system of spending control. This is the impact of recession of which the Chancellor spoke.

Nor, in a different way, is there any way to avoid the problem. The Government could have done about the other important area where it has no control through its cash limits system—the local authorities. These seem certain to spend more than the Government would have them to on their current accounts.

Even the new "block grant" system would not prevent this happening, though it looks likely to cause a fair amount of havoc in the process of failing to do so. It is possible to

argue that the Government's figures at the time of the last Budget were unrealistic, and should have been higher. But there is not much more that could have been done over the past year to force local authorities to hold their spending down.

This kind of overspending is only part of the problem. For the problems of the economy are putting very severe pressure on the cash limits system, the main system for controlling spending. In the process, a lot of the rules which seemed to have been established in recent years are being questioned.

For the private sector has responded to its severe problems in the past year by leaning more heavily than before on the Government as customer. Deliveries have been speeded up and bills have been sent in earlier.

Work for which it used to take many months to find a contractor is now mapped out very quickly. In the process, spending departments are going much closer to their cash limits than anyone expected. We shall not know the end of the financial year whether they are going to come close to breaking these limits or whether they

will actually break through them.

The one area where there is clear evidence is in defence, where the cash limits have been changed because it became obvious last year that the old limit was not going to be observed.

The Defence Department was forced to impose a moratorium on orders to grease was the extent to which it looked likely to overspend. This in part reflected the strong feeling in the Treasury that no real effort was being made to hold down the rate at which money was being spent. Treasury officials make secret of their view that their counterparts at the defence department are a lot better at fighting battles in Whitehall than they are at limiting expenditure.

What is a strange phenomenon at a time when the cash limits have been observable in other departments. Failing to observe cash limits is meant to be a capital offence in Whitehall, but the evidence for its heppening in a number of cases this year is growing increasingly strong.

One consequence of this is that the volume of spending this year is running out to be

much higher than the Government expected. In drawing up its plans at the time of the last Budget, it assumed that about £1,300m of present prices could be deducted from projected spending because of "short-fall", the tendency of spending ministries not to use all the room for spending which they have allowed themselves.

Does it all matter? There are some good aspects of the present situation. Private industry would be in even worse state if the public sector had found a way of slowing down its receipt of goods to hold to the planned spending levels. If deliveries had occurred at the expected pace, the bankruptcies would have been more frequent and the unemployment would have been higher.

But this is a defence which could equally well be used by spending for increased spending. The Government is right in saying that it is not worried by those aspects of public borrowing which are growing because of the recession. But the growth in borrowing caused by other factors is a different matter and calls for a review of the system.

Helping new businesses get off the ground

Just as the town of St Helens is synonymous with the glass industry and Pilkington Bros, so the Wirral area of Merseyside—on the Cheshire bank of the Mersey—is indelibly identified with Unilever.

The two industrial giants now have something else in common, since both are involved in similar, but nevertheless unique, ventures to tackle the economic problems in the areas that for years they have tended to dominate.

In the glass town Pilkington was the prime mover in the establishment of the Community of St Helens Trust, an organization which already has a record of success in attracting new business ventures to the town and helping existing ones to expand.

Now Unilever has joined forces with the local authority and the Wirral Chamber of Commerce in setting up a company—with the singularly appropriate name of In Business Ltd—to do the same sort of thing in its own area. In Business is now truly "in business" because it was formally launched a few days ago. It operates from premises provided by the local authority—a former caretaker's flat in a school building which is being vacated by the North Wirral College of Technology at Birkenhead.

The company is headed by Mr. Paul Farrow, a former Unilever senior executive. He says that although a number of private and public organizations already exist to attract companies to Merseyside and encourage new enterprises, the founders of In Business believe that a joint approach by established industry, the local authority and business interests will give a new dimension to these efforts.

The aim will be to help to create a healthy small business sector in the local community. A wide range of expertise

from within Unilever, associated companies and other businesses will be available to help potential entrepreneurs draw up their plans and get started. The company will also advise businessmen and women who are contemplating expansion.

Mr. Farrow says: "There is obviously a very bad unemployment problem on the Wirral. Birkenhead, for instance, has an unemployment rate of 15.5 per cent. We are under no illusions that we can wave a magic wand and solve that problem, but there are ways in which we can help."

"We want to foster and encourage the growth of new and existing small businesses. But we also want to help create a climate that is conducive to this by providing the facilities for an exchange of ideas."

Ultimately In Business will take over the whole of the school building and turn it into a small business centre designed to serve as a focal point for business activity in the Wirral area. It will offer conference and meeting facilities, an exhibition area and several small office units and workshops that will be let.

Mr. Farrow says: "We recognize that one of the major problems confronting new business is finding suitable accommodation. By offering help in the form of office space, typing and a telephone answering service, we will be able to give practical help to fledgling organizations."

"The small business man or woman often leads an isolated

life, perhaps working up to 12 hours a day, and another attraction of the centre will be the opportunity for the new business fraternity to share views and experiences and keep up to date with the latest developments."

It is hoped that the centre will be fully operational by the autumn.

In Business will cooperate closely with the banks and other financial institutions as part of the process of keeping the money flowing in touch with appropriate sources.

The company also hopes to encourage large companies and organizations in the area to examine ways in which their own commercial policies can help small businesses.

In Business's board consists initially of Mr. Don Perry, chairman, from Unilever; UK Holdings, Mr. N. P. Dadd, (UML Ltd), Mr. I. G. Holt (Wirral Borough Council) and Mr. S. L. Jones (Wirral Chamber of Commerce).

Mr. Perry insists that "we are not a bank or a finance house. We will not be investing in, or attempting to run, businesses."

But besides providing £50,000 a year—matched by a similar sum from the local authority—to finance the company's day-to-day operations, Mr. Perry insists that it will make available a so far unspecified sum to provide "pump priming" capital loans for new or expanding ventures.

Mr. Farrow will be concentrating on the Wirral area in his attempts to attract potential enterprises and individuals with "a good idea". He has a trained nose. One of his many executive posts with Unilever was a ten-year stint as sales manager and market manager for what Unilever likes to call its "fragrance" company, Proprietary Perfumes at Ashford.

R. W. Shakespeare

Business Diary profile: The Corporation of London

City of London is two as. It is the centre of financial and business interests that draw 360,000 people to it during the day, after they go home, it is a residential area housing 6,500 of them in the Barbican development. The City also has a twin of government under the 1 Mayor, at present Sir Alderman Gardner Thorpe—the court of Aldermen and modern local authority of Court of Common Council.

is the oldest local authority in the country, dating to the days of Alfred the Great, and it faithfully carries its traditions. Through the 1 Mayor it retains enormous influence in its City's social and financial activities.

Behind the pomp, though, is a growing feeling of uneasiness about the City's government—that its refusal to reform itself represents a real threat to its survival in the 21st century.

The City Corporation claims it is misrepresented and, on occasions, that is no exaggeration. But from the time that Mrs. Edwina Leaver was first rejected by the Court of Aldermen in 1973, the winning her ward vote system of elections in the City has been called into question. Now the news that some of those entitled to vote in elections may vote not once but often (three in fact) has raised the brows of many observers of the corporation, who were wary of it.

After Mrs. Coven had been elected twice, she stood down



The crumbling facade of Guildhall, ejecting Donald Silk and Edwina Coven before a disgruntled audience of City businessmen.

in favour of Christopher Leaver. He was elected in his ward with just two votes cast, then to be approved by the Court of Aldermen.

The next aldermanic candidate to be rejected as "unsuitable" after winning his election was Donald Silk, who attempted in vain to have the veto declared invalid by the High Court.

It is an irony that, had Mrs. Coven been admitted to the Court of Aldermen, it is very likely that she would now

add up to £10,000 of their own to the allowance of £13,000.

It is the multiple vote which is latest in the line of customs bringing the City a bad name. Under this, partners in firms with more than one office in the City can vote in each of the wards in which their offices stand.

Thus partners in the firm of Coopers and Lybrand, chartered accountants, can—and did—vote in three wards in the recent elections to the Court of Common Council.

For some candidates it makes the difference between victory and defeat and was probably so in the case of Silk in his third attempt to become an alderman in April last year.

An internal feud of the City franchise is under way as a result of growing pressure, but there is a feeling among the business interests that they—while most of the City's revenue—should have some say through the ballot box in the conduct of the affairs of the City in which they operate.

The fact is that 95 per cent of the City's rates are paid by limited companies, more than 99 per cent by businesses and just 0.3 per cent by the domestic ratepayers, out of a total income of £216m. Of that, the Inner London Education Authority takes £121m, the Greater London Council £47m and £3m goes to the boroughs' rate equalization fund, leaving £45m for the City, most of which goes on the City police and the Barbican.

Where does the power lie? There is an old boys' network operating in certain of the largest companies and in the Court of Aldermen and they wield enormous power—

not least with their ability to veto aldermanic candidates.

The official view is that since the Lord Mayor is chosen from the aldermen, "it is important that only those suitable for the appointment should hold it and there is a responsibility on those who have to make the election to ensure that suitable candidates appear."

That view was put forward last month by Colin Dyer, then chief, commissioner of the corporation.

He defended the role of aldermen, whose powers "are mainly concerned with some aspects of the ancient Corporation and with the Mayoralty", but then compared their power with that of the Court of Common Council.

"Aldermen may be very influential people, but with 130 commoners to 25 Aldermen there is no doubt where the power lies. It lies with the Commoners."

Dyer concluded that the corporation was an unusual structure, largely because of history, and required an unusual form of government. The whole thing is unusual, but the important thing is that it works and works well.

That is not the view of critics among the councilmen, one of whom commented: "The situation is getting scandalous. We are no longer peasants living in the 'Middle Ages'."

Nor is it the view of the Greater London Lower Party, whose manifesto for the May GLC election calls for powers to end "the anachronistic anomaly of the City of London."

Christopher Warman

FINANCIAL NEWS

Textile closure hits Hirst & Mallinson

By Rosemary Unsworth
Hirst & Mallinson, the catering, pharmaceuticals group based in Huddersfield, traded profitably, as forecast, in the second half but nevertheless slipped into losses at the year end.

Pretax losses came to £204,000 compared with £295,000 pretax profit while turnover in the year to November 1 was £15m against £18.6m for the previous 53 weeks.

The group's decision to pull out of textile manufacturing was the main reason for the downturn as it was forced to complete loss making contracts and also incurred closedown costs which ran into six figures. More than 350 employees were made redundant.

The rationalization of this part of the company's business was complete at the year end and it will not be possible for textiles to have a significantly adverse effect either on future profits or liquidity, Mr Michael Crompton, the chairman, said.

Pharmaceutical distribution showed a profit improvement in the last quarter which it has maintained into the current year and catering is performing well in a tough market.

Exports to the Middle East were held back by the war between Iran and Iraq although trade with Africa, including Zambia and Nigeria, improved. In addition the group has developed a division selling computer-based business systems, derived from its experience in using such machinery in its distribution activities. This move forms part of the policy of reducing group vulnerability to seasonal trends and fashion swings, Mr Crompton said.

Medium-term borrowings were £211,000 while cash deposits increased by a third to £318,000 as plant was sold following closures.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Credits	14%
C. Hoare & Co.	14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Roseminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on basis of £10,000 and under £5,000 up to £50,000 12% p.a. over £50,000 13% p.a.

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Dilemma for Lloyds over dividend

Lloyds Bank faces a dilemma over how large a final dividend to pay when it announces results on Friday.

An increase of 20 to 25 per cent could be covered, according to profit forecasts, but would be a sensitive issue since pay negotiations are aiming at 13 per cent limits. After the 22 per cent increase at the interim stage, and taking into account the wage settlements, 15 per cent is probably the increase to look for.

The most optimistic profits estimates suggest £294m pretax in the year to December against £276m last time but this will depend largely on the provision for bad debts, which has been forecast at an increase of 150 to 250 per cent. All the same, Lloyds will be one of the few big banks to report increased profits. Barclays, committed to a 20 per cent dividend increase, National Westminster and the Midland all follow shortly with results.

Lloyds' increase will come partly from Lloyds International, which has found success recently by moving out of money markets into loans and has seen a 63 per cent profit rise in the year.

Other companies reporting this week include Dalgery, BOC, Hoover, Birmid Qualeast and Wedgwood. It will be interesting to see how Wedgwood, often considered the bellwether of British exporters, has managed in its third quarter. Forecasts are looking for up to £1m in pretax profits for the quarter.

It reports on Wednesday. This is the traditionally good Christmas buying period in a year that has seen fluctuating results—a poor first quarter of £176,000 pretax followed by a high second quarter of £1.8m. Although profits are said to have remained 63 per cent of sales by volume, profit margins have been crippled by the strength of sterling. Full year

results are expected to be £4m, compared with £6.2m last time. With borrowings of some £2.5m, Wedgwood is relatively highly geared at 49 per cent.

BOC, reporting on Wednesday its first quarter results for December, is heading for £15.2m pretax against £12.4m last time. After good results last year, particularly from its South African and Australian

This week

companies, and the Ercs subsidiary in the United States, BOC took a look at its United Kingdom interests which were not doing as well. This led to rationalization in United Kingdom concerns and the closure last year of 12 small businesses. As a result, BOC is hoping for better figures from the United Kingdom this year.

Figures from Hoover on Thursday for the year to December will show both the £1m cost of redundancies carried out last year and the continued pressures from the strong pound. Estimates put pretax profits at about £3m for the year compared with £3 last year. On top of this come exchange losses, which are expected to be similar to last year's total of £1.5m.

Although Hoover has seen the end of the most drastic de-stocking from retailers, it still faces competition from imports. Traditionally, Italian washing machines are its main competitors, but there has been increasing competition from Poland and Spain. Hoover's Australian and South African subsidiaries have continued to perform well. The interim dividend was cut from 5.6p net to 4p and a similar reduction is forecast. It has been suggested by some that the final may be passed.

The plight of engineering concerns in the West Midlands will be underlined on Wednesday with full-year results from Birmid Qualeast, the maker of components for the automotive industries and one of the largest independent foundry companies in the UK. It is feared that the worst is not yet over and that further closures and redundancies may be imminent. British Leyland trucks and cars and Massey Ferguson tractors are Birmid's main customers. Although the car market has picked up lately, Birmid will be hit by the continued downturn of demand for trucks and

over. It is likely that the final dividend will be omitted. This week sees a plethora of economic reports. On Thursday the public sector borrowing requirement and details of local authority borrowings for the fourth quarter are due in light of money supply figures for January. The PSBR will be looked at for further evidence that inflation is coming under control.

TODAY—Interiors: Thomas Nationwide Transport, Westminster and Country Properties. Final: Drake and Scull. TOMORROW—Interiors: Abercrombie Group, Epicure Holdings, Impala Platinum Holdings, Munson Finance (amended), Meat Trade Suppliers, Reliance Knitwear Group, Joseph Webb, Wedgwood (nine months). Final: Ernest Jones, First Scottish American Trust, Midlump Investment Trust, Vereeniging Refractories, West Coast and Texas Regional Investment Trust.

WEDNESDAY—Interiors: BOC International (first quarter), Dalgery, Eleco Holdings, United Real Property Trust. Final: Birmid Qualeast, Copenhagen Handelsbank, General Consolidations Investment Trust, Socorro Group, Security Services, Updown Investment Co, United States Debutante Corp, and Yeoman Investment Trust.

THURSDAY—Interiors: Deagan Holdings, English Association Group, Leaderfirst, Anglo American Coal Corp, Associated Fisheries, Goode Durrant and Murray, Hoover, Marchwell, Newbold and Burton Holdings, Scottish Eastern Investment Trust, Sharpe and Fisher, Wm Whitbread.

FRIDAY—Interiors: Dalgery Electric International. Final: Abbey Panels, Lloyds, Romney Trust.

Margaret Pagano

Berkeley looks to optimistic future

Berkeley Exploration and Production, the recently floated exploration arm of KCA International, hoping to find commercial quantities of oil and gas under the North Sea and elsewhere, has published its first accounts for the period from September 12, 1979 to December 31, last.

Berkeley was the first public flotation under Stock Exchange Rule 163(3) which covered companies that do not meet all the requirements of those fully listed.

Mr Colin Orr-Ewing, executive chairman, said that: "We started the year as an idea and we have finished the year as a young and vigorous independent company. It is, however, yet to make a discovery. But Mr Orr-Ewing argues that Berkeley: "Should retain the appeal of a company which, with a current market capitalization of about £11m, should be highly affected by a substantial North Sea find."

In the North Sea the group will probably drill between one and three wells a year. To ease the expense it will try to share its exposure with several companies or institutions.

To balance North Sea exposure, Berkeley has invested in low-risk exploration in the United States where the pay offs are quick. As forecast in the prospectus, the group has not yet called on shareholders for the balance of 50p on the partly paid shares. But it is anticipated that Berkeley will formally call for the balance early in April. The issue price of the £1 shares, 50p paid, was soon overtaken. The shares shot to 128p a year ago. In early dealings. They are now 246p.

Uncertain climate for S. W. Berisford

The accounts of S. W. Berisford, the international trader involved in merchandising, processing and distributing raw materials, especially sugar and cocoa, come at a time when the group still does not know whether the Monopolies and Mergers Commission will approve its bid for British Sugar Corporation. This was announced as long ago as last May and it was referred on June 3.

In his annual statement, Mr Ephraim Margulies, chairman, pointed out that the Commission has until March 3 to finish its report. He added: "We have so far been given no indication of how soon thereafter the findings will be announced and the report published." The chairman said that the bid was in the interests of everyone "at least, the Government which would have the opportunity in line with stated policy to divest itself of an investment in the private sector."

At present, Berisford has a stock market value of nearly £200m. By contrast, British Sugar is valued at around

£156m. The original offer was of three Berisford shares and 383p cash for every four shares in British Sugar.

That bid values British Sugar at just over 231p a share. Today, the share price is 263p. In the interval BSC has strongly resisted Berisford's approach, revealed assets, and hoisted its own profits. Net assets are now 415p a share.

Mr Margulies stressed Berisford's continuing strength which lies in diversity. With one eye presumably on renewal of the struggle for BSS, he gave little away in noting that recession would probably be around for some time. The directors, he said, were determined that that growth would continue.

In the year to September 30 pretax profits went from £32.2m to £36.1m, nearly as fast a sales. But so far it has proved impossible for the group to indicate current cost profits. Net assets last September were 146p a share. Net bank borrowings were 52 per cent of share holders' funds.

Diamond exploration hopes in Ontario

Diamond Survey of Toronto, a subsidiary of Selection Trust, will need to carry out further tests to explore for diamonds in Ontario.

Exploration is at a very early stage. Bulk sample testing will ultimately be required to see if in fact any of these pipes contain diamonds. If they do, further testing will be needed to determine whether a commercial deposit exists.

The company said: "In considering this programme it must be appreciated that of the

International

thousands of such pipes identified to date throughout the world only a small number have been found to contain diamonds in economic quantities." Selection Trust and Eao Resources, an Ontario subsidiary of Imperial Oil, each have half interest in the joint venture which is exploring for diamonds, gold and base metals in the Hearst region.

Bond issue by IMI

IMI, the medium-term credit institution Istituto Mobiliare Italiano, is to issue two open-ended bonds, a 10-year and a 15-year domestic capital market.

One issue with a maximum seven-year life, repayable in equal annual tranches from

1983, would have a fixed 1 per cent annual coupon. The other, with a maximum life of 15 years, would carry a floating rate half-yearly coupon based on prime rates at average bond yields. Both issues will be at par.

Director of finance for Pentos

Mr Ian A. Duncan has joined the board of Pentos as finance director.

Mr D. M. Elliott is to become director of management services at the National Nuclear Corporation, Rileys.

Mr David Morphet, an Under Secretary in the Department of Energy, will be on the board of BICC Cables as a non-executive director.

Mr Alan Curtis has become a non-executive director of Lotus Cars.

Mr K. S. Whitehouse is the new managing director of the International Commission, replacing Mr J. G. Anderson, who joined the main board of ICI in November.

Mr D. J. Lovelidge will succeed Mr K. G. Gayther, who is retiring as managing director of Stephenson Clarke Industrial Fuels and of Powell Duffryn International Fuels on April 1.

Mr Richard S. Truelove, director and general manager of Brown Brothers' Middle East operations, is now a director of Brown Brothers (Overseas), the export subsidiary.

Mr Derek Wynne-Jones has joined the board of the International development division of FA Management Consultants.

Mr J. Nigel MacDonald is the new managing director of Barry Feilding, a subsidiary of Combined English Stores Group.

Mr Peter Gould has become assistant managing director of Laing Management Contracting, the Luton-based company in the John Laing Group.

Mr Michael I. Sorensen, president of Columbia University, has become a director of Chemical New York Corporation and its main subsidiary, Chemical Bank.

Mr Stanley Waring is to be a non-executive director of Baxton Clark & Co. Mr Michael A. Godber has become a financial director.

St Andrew Trust: Dividend 8.3p (5.6p) net for 1980. Net revenue available for distribution £807,000 (£830,000 including £115,000 non-recurring). Eps 8.3p (7.03p including 10p non-recurring). Nav per share 188.8p (152.2p).

Briefly

Avril Petroleum: Avril Petroleum (formerly Attock Petroleum) reports that its offshore, North Sea petroleum, has applied for a licence to explore for hydrocarbons covering an offshore area of 300 square miles between the east side of Lough Foyle and the east side of the adjacent offshore area extending up to the three mile limit. North Sea Petroleum as operator will have a 2 per cent interest in the area and the other participants are Ulster Bank, Ulster Natural Resources, Gaelic Oil and Egitron Oil and Gas.

Colonial Securities: True Revenue after all charges, 1980: £333,000 (£222,000). Total dividend on deferred stock 16.4 (15p).

UDT: Rowe & Pitman has bought the 50 per cent share in UDT Central Board 60 ordinary shares in United Dominions Trust at 5 each.

General Investors and Trustees: A new 10-year loan facility of £1.5m has been arranged with Manufacturers Hanover Trust. The loan has been drawn down for the full period of one year to Feb 1, 1981 at an interest rate of 13 1/2 per cent.

Cardinal Investment Trust: A 10-year loan facility of £1.5m has been arranged with Manufacturers Hanover Trust. The loan has been drawn down for the full period of one year to Feb 1, 1981 at an interest rate of 13 1/2 per cent.

Brooks Tool Engineering (1980): The chairman, Mr D. Saunders, reports in his annual statement that the company has enjoyed a leading position in each of its specialised markets since its inception. The company has been successful in securing a significant and profitable impact on production. Too many engineering companies are competing in an ever-increasing amount of business and he warns that it becomes progressively more difficult to maintain present levels of earnings, let alone achieve five-year growth targets. Brooks has set.

Minister Assets: Britannia Air has acquired a further 700 shares in Minister Assets and holds 5.82m shares (17 per cent of the company's 33.5m shares). Oriel Foods: 11c share savings back: United Dons Trust.

Turnbull Scott: Board of Turnbull Scott & Co. has announced an offer of 430p announced by H. Gibson for Stag Line February 12 being posted to shareholders of Stag, if it is taken up. The offer of 400p share announced by Turnbull will be withdrawn.

Mergers cleared: Following the announcement of a merger referred to the Monopolies Commission. General Electric Company, Fickler Corporation, Argyl Food, Oriel Foods: 11c share savings back: United Dons Trust.

Kuwait stake in THE: The Kuwait Investment Office has disclosed a holding in The Kuwait Investment Office of just 5 per cent. The level at which disclosure is required.

Tokyo credit move: Japan is studying measures to match credit terms given western nations on industrial plant exports, to prevent a disadvantage in competing orders.

Malaysia buys into Harrisons

Advast Merchant Bankers has placed 4.71 million shares in Harrisons and Crossfield with the Malaysian National Equity Corporation at 700p each. The shares, worth around £33m and equal to about 8 per cent of the group's issued capital, came from Genting and Kien Hui Realty.

Advast said that Genting holds 2.56 million shares and Kien Hui 2.15 million of them. The sale depends on Genting shareholders agreeing at an extraordinary general meeting, and on the blessing of the Malaysian authorities.

Genting's money will be placed on deposit until it can be invested for further expansion. The sale, according to Advast, should increase Genting's assets a share by 55 Malaysian cents from 3.51 Ringgit at the end of December, 1979, to the last published figure.

Genting runs hotels and a casino. It also has interests in property and plantations. Kien Hui is the family company of Genting's chairman, Tan Sri Lim Goh Tong. The Malaysian National Equity Corporation, or Permodalan Nasional, is the investment agency which will run the national unit trust. Harrisons and Crossfield is in industrial raw materials, timber, commodity, merchandising, shipping insurance and finance besides plantations. The Kuwait Investment Office has nearly a tenth of the shares.

How to play the foreign exchange game

Foreign exchange is one of those magic phrases which evoke crises, glooms, frantic specialists with a telephone in each hand and breathless reporters in front of desks. It is a game of wits when the pound, the dollar or whatever sinks or soars

MARKET REPORTS

Trading prospects look bleak

The prospect of renewed oil chartering caused a ripple of interest in the dry cargo market last week but the ports turned out to be unimpressed. However, the Russians are credited with the booking of the 26,500-ton Asia, a ship taken for a transatlantic trip at around \$8,500 day with delivery in mid-March at Key West and delivery in the Skaw-Wassero. This appeared to be a roof fixture so hopes among charterers of a stronger presence.

The past seven days has seen no decision on the oil cargo. Even if it is lifted, does not mean that Russia could be able to buy unimpressed. It is now being hinted that any policy aimed at restricting future oil sales by the Soviet Union will be linked to discussions of the renewal of the existing year deal which expires at the end of September. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, the world will import some 3.5 million tonnes of grain in the year 1980-1981 period. The fluctuating trading

pattern of the dry cargo sector so far this year continues, although there is some feeling among brokers and charterers that the grain area is beginning to settle. Certainly, the demand for tonnage to ship this commodity, especially from North America, is strong. A steady volume of securing from European continental ports to Italy and the Middle East is also being maintained.

Freight

Transatlantic rates were stable with a 70,000 tonner from the United States Gulf to the Antwerp-Hamburg range securing \$170 and an 87,000 tonner to Holland gaining \$18. Rates for smaller vessels were not so firm despite a good number of fixtures being concluded to destinations in Europe, the Far East and South America.

Among other voyage business, sugar particularly featured. The amount of time chartering was similar to that of

late with interest in period fixtures still being displayed. One 19,000 tonner was taken for seven-nine months trading at \$7,350 a day.

Conditions in the tanker market showed no signs of improving. The one bright area continued to be the Caribbean which is experiencing a buoyant demand for tonnage, particularly for shipments to America. Even so, brokers consider that rates still lag behind the current level of activity and, although a firmer underlying trend is being felt, no real improvement has been forthcoming.

In the Gulf, a spate of VLCC fixtures late only seemed to indicate that rates had weakened further so making it tougher for owners to cover even their operating costs. This spate included the booking by Socar of a 275,000 tonner to the United Kingdom/continent on the basis of world scale twenty six (10 knots) or world scale twenty eight (14 knots). This reflects a drop of around one point on earlier transactions for westbound charters.

David Robinson

Less hope of rally this summer

Trading in a new type of warrant suggests that Eurobond market participants are no longer confident of a substantial decline in long-term interest rates this summer, analysts say.

A few international dollar bonds have been issued recently with detachable warrants to buy a like amount of similar bonds. These issues were designed to attract investors who foresee falling interest rates.

For instance, Credit National, the French state lending agency, issued a \$250m five-year issue in December at par, bearing 13.75 per cent. Each note carries a warrant to buy at par a like amount of 10-year bonds bearing 13.75 per cent. If interest rates decline before the warrants expire in July, the warrants would become more valuable. This is because the price of the 13.75 per cent coupon bond would have to rise above the exercise price of the warrants to bring the bond yield down to market levels.

However, Credit National's warrants declined \$5 this week to \$17.50 bid, \$25 offered. Traders said the decline reflects an increasing pessimism about the outlook for long-term interest rates.

"There is a definite change in sentiment, people are starting to believe that a future bull market is a longer way off than

the life of the warrants," Mr William Steen, an executive director of Chase Manhattan, says.

Market technicians also note that the deposit market is no longer anticipating a decline in short-term interest rates over the next six months. At the end of December, one-month dollar deposits in London were 19.31 per cent offered and three months 17.94 per cent offered and six months 16.94 per cent offered. As the maturity lengthened, the interest rate declined. Analysts say this reflects inversion of the yield curve reflected expectations that interest rates would decline this summer.

Euromarkets

However, as of Friday, the one-month rate was 18.06 per cent offered, three months 18.31 per cent offered and six months 18.31 per cent offered. Thus, the market now appears to be working on the assumption that interest rates may not decline by very much over the next three to six months, technicians say.

What appears to have caused optimism about interest rates to fade is concern over the size of the Federal Reserve budget deficit which some analysts believe, will put a strain on capital markets.

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

STRAIGHT DEBT		Price	Yield
REMARKS			
1980-1981		100.00	10.00
1981-1982		100.00	10.00
1982-1983		100.00	10.00
1983-1984		100.00	10.00
1984-1985		100.00	10.00
1985-1986		100.00	10.00
1986-1987		100.00	10.00
1987-1988		100.00	10.00
1988-1989		100.00	10.00
1989-1990		100.00	10.00
1990-1991		100.00	10.00
1991-1992		100.00	10.00
1992-1993		100.00	10.00
1993-1994		100.00	10.00
1994-1995		100.00	10.00
1995-1996		100.00	10.00
1996-1997		100.00	10.00
1997-1998		100.00	10.00
1998-1999		100.00	10.00
1999-2000		100.00	10.00
2000-2001		100.00	10.00
2001-2002		100.00	10.00
2002-2003		100.00	10.00
2003-2004		100.00	10.00
2004-2005		100.00	10.00
2005-2006		100.00	10.00
2006-2007		100.00	10.00
2007-2008		100.00	10.00
2008-2009		100.00	10.00
2009-2010		100.00	10.00
2010-2011		100.00	10.00
2011-2012		100.00	10.00
2012-2013		100.00	10.00
2013-2014		100.00	10.00
2014-2015		100.00	10.00
2015-2016		100.00	10.00
2016-2017		100.00	10.00
2017-2018		100.00	10.00
2018-2019		100.00	10.00
2019-2020		100.00	10.00
2020-2021		100.00	10.00
2021-2022		100.00	10.00
2022-2023		100.00	10.00
2023-2024		100.00	10.00
2024-2025		100.00	10.00
2025-2026		100.00	10.00
2026-2027		100.00	10.00
2027-2028		100.00	10.00
2028-2029		100.00	10.00
2029-2030		100.00	10.00
2030-2031		100.00	10.00
2031-2032		100.00	10.00
2032-2033		100.00	10.00
2033-2034		100.00	10.00
2034-2035		100.00	10.00
2035-2036		100.00	10.00
2036-2037		100.00	10.00
2037-2038		100.00	10.00
2038-2039		100.00	10.00
2039-2040		100.00	10.00
2040-2041		100.00	10.00
2041-2042		100.00	10.00
2042-2043		100.00	10.00
2043-2044		100.00	10.00
2044-2045		100.00	10.00
2045-2046		100.00	10.00
2046-2047		100.00	10.00
2047-2048		100.00	10.00
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2049-2050		100.00	10.00
2050-2051		100.00	10.00
2051-2052		100.00	10.00
2052-2053		100.00	10.00
2053-2054		100.00	10.00
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2057-2058		100.00	10.00
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2060-2061		100.00	10.00
2061-2062		100.00	10.00
2062-2063		100.00	10.00
2063-2064		100.00	10.00
2064-2065		100.00	10.00
2065-2066		100.00	10.00
2066-2067		100.00	10.00
2067-2068		100.00	10.00
2068-2069		100.00	10.00
2069-2070		100.00	10.00
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2075-2076		100.00	10.00
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2077-2078		100.00	10.00
2078-2079		100.00	10.00
2079-2080		100.00	10.00
2080-2081		100.00	10.00
2081-2082		100.00	10.00
2082-2083		100.00	10.00
2083-2084		100.00	10.00
2084-2085		100.00	10.00
2085-2086		100.00	10.00
2086-2087		100.00	10.00
2087-2088		100.00	10.00
2088-2089		100.00	10.00
2089-2090		100.00	10.00
2090-2091		100.00	10.00
2091-2092		100.00	10.00
2092-2093		100.00	10.00
2093-2094		100.00	10.00
2094-2095		100.00	10.00
2095-2096		100.00	10.00
2096-2097		100.00	10.00
2097-2098		100.00	10.00
2098-2099		100.00	10.00
2099-2100		100.00	10.00
2100-2101		100.00	10.00
2101-2102		100.00	10.00
2102-2103		100.00	10.00
2103-2104		100.00	10.00
2104-2105		100.00	10.00
2105-2106		100.00	10.00
2106-2107		100.00	10.00
2107-2108		100.00	10.00
2108-2109		100.00	10.00
2109-2110		100.00	10.00
2110-2111		100.00	10.00
2111-2112		100.00	10.00
2112-2113		100.00	10.00
2113-2114		100.00	10.00
2114-2115		100.00	10.00
2115-2116		100.00	10.00
2116-2117		100.00	10.00
2117-2118		100.00	10.00
2118-2119		100.00	10.00
2119-2120		100.00	10.00
2120-2121		100.00	10.00
2121-2122		100.00	10.00
2122-2123		100.00	10.00
2123-2124		100.00	10.00
2124-2125		100.00	10.00
2125-2126		100.00	10.00
2126-2127		100.00	10.00
2127-2128		100.00	10.00
2128-2129		100.00	10.00
2129-2130		100.00	10.00
2130-2131		100.00	10.00
2131-2132		100.00	10.00
2132-2133		100.00	10.00
2133-2134		100.00	10.00
2134-2135		100.00	10.00
2135-2136		100.00	10.00
2136-2137		100.00	10.00
2137-2138		100.00	10.00
2138-2139		100.00	10.00
2139-2140		100.00	10.00
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2141-2142		100.00	10.00
2142-2143		100.00	10.00
2143-2144		100.00	10.00
2144-2145		100.00	10.00
2145-2146		100.00	10.00
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2150-2151		100.00	10.00
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2158-2159		100.00	10.00
2159-2160		100.00	10.00
2160-2161		100.00	10.00
2161-2162		100.00	10.00
2162-2163		100.00	10.00
2163-2164		100.00	10.00
2164-2165		100.00	10.00
2165-2166		100.00	10.00
2166-2167		100.00	10.00
2167-2168		100.00	10.00
2168-2169		100.00	10.00
2169-2170		100.00	10.00
2170-2171		100.00	10.00
2171-2172		100.00	10.00
2172-2173		100.00	10.00
2173-2174		100.00	10.00
2174-2175		100.00	10.00
2175-2176		100.00	10.00
2176-2177		100.00	10.00
2177-2178		100.00	10.00
2178-2179		100.00	10.00
2179-2180		100.00	10.00
2180-2181		100.00	10.00
2181-2182		100.00	10.00
2182-2183		100.00	10.00
2183-2184		100.00	10.00
2184-2185		100.00	10.00
2185-2186		100.00	10.00
2186-2187		100.00	10.00
2187-2188		100.00	10.00
2188-2189		100.00	10.00

Capitalization and week's change

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

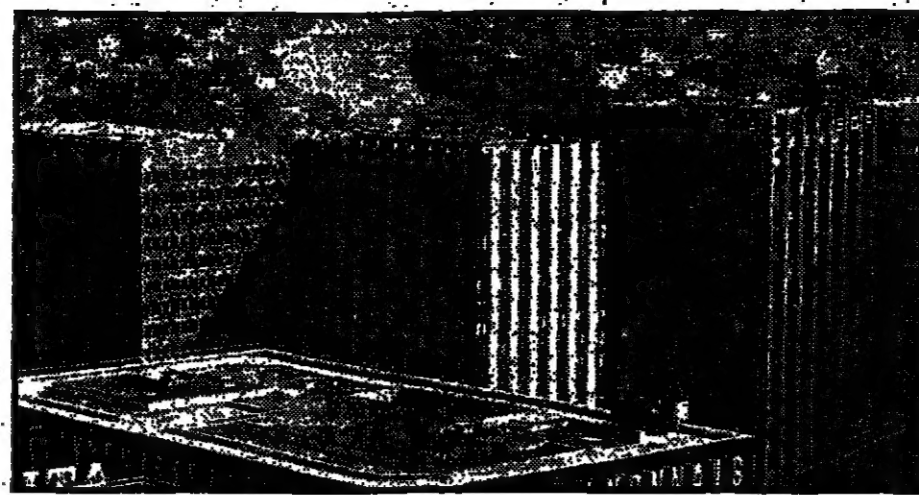
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Commercial & Industrial Property.

Commercial property: the end of the slump in Europe

ish property developers estate agents took to the streets with the same enthusiasm as our early sixties. At the beginning of the decade it was not that if any property had an ounce of entrepreneurial skill, he would be doing deals in the city. The industry folklore has it that the "goldrush" of the early 1970s most of the early 1970s most of the early 1970s most of the early 1970s... (text continues with details of the commercial property market slump and recovery in Europe)



La Defense office development in suburban Paris.

suburbs are clear when rents within inner Paris are around the £1,500 a sq metre compared to around £1,700 a sq metre in the new developments at La Defense. Shortages of good modern accommodation have also led to falling yields with prime offices now commanding yields of close on six per cent although Ellis says this trend is largely based on renovation schemes than standing investments. While large scale city centre development may be some way off for both Paris and Brussels, agents are predicting a sharp rise in rents in the city centres. Paris has never really suffered the tremendous oversupply problems experienced by Brussels and as a result it is presently reflecting a sharp decline in large blocks of available accommodation. Although surveys last year indicated around 225,000 sq metres of office space on the market in inner Paris there was not a single building containing more than 10,000 sq metres and only a handful offering 5,000 sq metres or more. And the situation in the suburbs has not been very much better with 237,000 sq metres available in the Western suburbs which includes La Defense. This is confirmed by a recent study by agents Richard Ellis who although noting the decline in available office space point out that the supply is beginning to stabilize. Rising costs and a shortage of new schemes has resulted in some spectacular deals made by large industrial groups moving out of the city centre. Rhone Poulenc, for example sold five office blocks to two banks for £55.5m. Covering 38,000 sq metres. Rhone Poulenc are vacating the buildings and relocating to La Defense in the suburbs. The reasons for companies moving out and into the

No sign of an office space glut in England

The office block, that enormous and much criticized twentieth century addition to the townscape of Britain, has acquired the reputation of being reserved for the empty vessels of the well-known proverb. Because no one ever seems to occupy them they inspire a great deal of public noise about their usefulness. Also they get in the way of more pleasing architecture. The truth is there is a shortage of office space, particularly in London, and this is expected to force up rents over the next five years. Thankfully there are also indications that their often hideous bulk and shape may become a thing of the past as architects begin to question whether their present form is more cost and space effective than a lower development which uses up all its sites and reverts to the old pattern of a central lightwell. Chartered surveyor Richard Ellis forecasts that rents in the City of London could climb as high as £40-£45 per sq ft by 1985. This compares with about £25 per sq ft at the moment. In its latest annual review of the City office accommodation market Ellis says that initially the market will move into "oversupply" especially in areas outside the prime banking and insurance locations. But this is not regarded as serious because the surplus is accounted for by the level of development completions taking place this year. New supply is expected to total around 3.5 million sq ft this year compared with about 3.7 million sq ft last year and 2.6 million sq ft in 1979. Next year and in 1983 about 3 million sq ft of space is expected to come on the market but thereafter there is likely to be a sharp decline in new accommodation. Mr Christopher Rowe, a partner in Richard Ellis, told me: "There is, beneath all the figures, a dramatic shortage of space. A firm and underlying demand is growing and the shortfall will really start to emerge between 12 and 18 months from now. There is not even enough to meet the demand at the moment. There isn't enough of the right space for the demand in the late sixties and the right standards. From planning application to completion takes up to five years, and the crucial factor in all the present trends is time. After 1973-4 there was a void during which little development took place. From 1977 development started again and the results are beginning to show through. But there is nowhere near enough to satisfy the underlying demand." He added: "People have been more cautious about lending money for development and, in terms of occupation, people have hesitated to take more space, but now they are saying 'We should be doing something.' There is hesitancy still but I see signs of optimism with people thinking of making decisions about future requirements." New office space to be completed this year will probably total more than 2 million sq ft although much of this is in peripheral City locations according to the Ellis report. Overall it is estimated that around 5.4 million sq ft will be completed by 1985 but most of the development will come on stream in the first three years. The hesitancy of the recent past by organisations considering new space is of course due to the recession, and this has influenced the shortfall in building speculation. Last year 2.7 million sq ft of space was let compared with 2.9 million sq ft in 1979, and Ellis predicts this will slip further to between 2.25 million sq ft and 2.5 million sq ft before the expected boom. Already the City's financial sector is increasing its demand as its international business increases, and prime banking and insurance accommodation continue to do well. Despite the state of the economy and the dull property market top City rentals have managed to grow faster than inflation, exceeding it by 3 per cent since the last war, and it is on this basis that Ellis makes his forecast of a dramatic rise in rents. In the provinces the past 12 months have seen a further diminution in the over supply of accommodation but rental levels generally have not shown the substantial advances of the previous two years. In its review of last year, Chartered surveyors St Quintin report a slackening of demand in the late sixties and autumn in provincial centres and further contraction is expected in the next few months as the effects of the economic recession percolate to the service industries which are, with the public sector, the largest office users in the country. St Quintin reports: "On the supply front we are now beginning to see a number of new developments becoming available in those locations where rental growth in 1978 and 1979 made development viable once again. It is possible that with the increasing supply of accommodation in those areas at a time of falling demand, potential tenants may be faced with a wider choice of space over the next 12 months or so. This would have the effect not only of stemming rental growth but would also see some prime buildings remaining empty." There have been reports of lettings at over £10 per sq ft in centres such as Slough, Windsor, Maidenhead and Reading but only a few have related to substantial floor areas. One trend is the sudden "acceptability" of office locations to the west and south of Reading, including Basingstoke, Newbury and Swindon. With excellent road and rail communications lettings of over 17 per sq ft have been achieved. To the east of London—at Brentwood and Chelmsford in Essex—rental levels have begun to move up sharply to nearly £6 per sq ft. In Birmingham, St Quintin reports, the dearth of prime office space has generally persisted, while in Bristol there has been a substantial amount of interest from developers. In Edinburgh, with the exception of small self-contained renovated buildings in the best parts of the New Town, demand has remained limited. St Quintin says: "With the exception of centres in the South-east rents have generally shown only very slight growth and even as rents rise in the face of the supply shortage, they have not yet reached a level which makes speculative development viable. Accordingly, with demand contracting, planning authorities more responsible, and developers more cautious, it seems unlikely that a glut of new office space will appear in the near future."

Michael Horsnell

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Edited by Peter Dear

toon (r) : 4.15 Jackanory.

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5.40 am On Air Radio 1, 7.00 MHI
Read 9.60 Simon Bates... 11.00
Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newkisses
12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave La
Stayin' Alive. 8.00 Richa
Skinner. 10.00 Joann Peclt. 12.00

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With Radio 2, 10.00 pm With Rad
1, 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

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7.30 News, 8.00 News, 8.30 News,
Simsy 8.45 World News, 9.00 News
9.30 News, 10.00 News, 10.30 News,
2.30 Thirty-minute Theatre, 8.00 Joun
Press.
11.15 News Notes from an Overseas
Correspondent, 11.30 News, 11.45
0.45 Of Roundabouts, 10.15 Take On
The Road, 10.30 News, 10.45 News,
News about Britain, 11.15 News
Newswatch, 12.00 Sports News,
Newswatch, 12.15 am Animal, Vegetarian
and Science News, 12.45 Sports News,
7.00 World News, 1.00 News, 1.15 Twentieth
Century, 1.30 News, 1.45 News,
Teach of Genius, 2.30 Rumpole, 3.00
News, 3.15 News, 3.30 News, 3.45
World News, 4.00 Commematory, 4.15
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Advertisements that have

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Classified A

Property Estate Agent
Personal Trade

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